The FLASH™

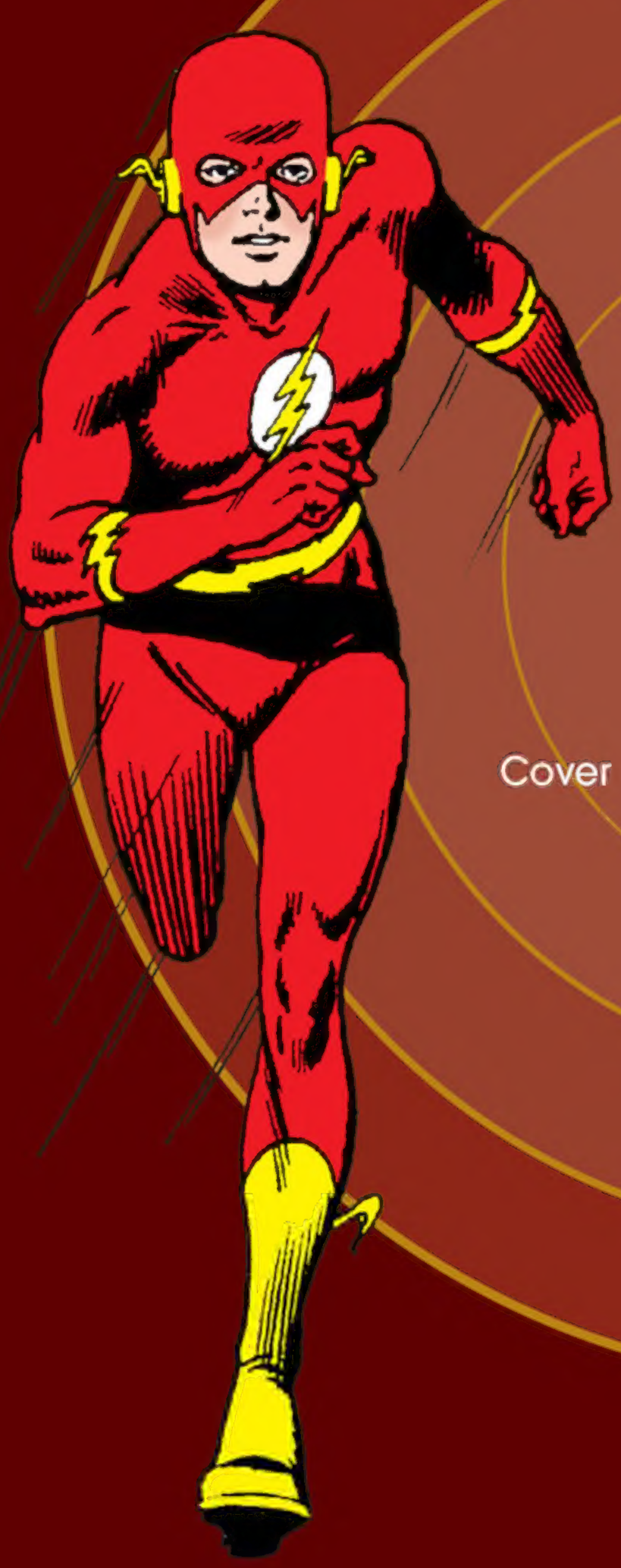
OF TWO WORLDS

DELUXE EDITION

GARDNER FOX
CARMINE INFANTINO
JOE GIELLA
JOHN BROOME
SID GREENE

DC

The FLASH
OF TWO WORLDS
DELUXE EDITION



Written by
GARDNER FOX
JOHN BROOME

Pencilled by
CARMINE INFANTINO

Inked by
JOE GIELLA
SID GREENE

Cover art and original series covers by
CARMINE INFANTINO
MURPHY ANDERSON

The FLASH OF TWO WORLDS DELUXE EDITION

JULIUS SCHWARTZ Editor – Original Series
JEB WOODARD Group Editor – Collected Editions
SCOTT NYBAKKEN Editor – Collected Edition
STEVE COOK Design Director – Books
GABRIEL MALDONADO Publication Design
TOM VALENTE Publication Production

BOB HARRAS Senior VP – Editor-in-Chief, DC Comics
PAT McCALLUM Executive Editor, DC Comics

DAN DiDIO Publisher
JIM LEE Publisher & Chief Creative Officer
BOBBIE CHASE VP – New Publishing Initiatives & Talent Development
DON FALLETTI VP – Manufacturing Operations & Workflow Management
LAWRENCE GANEM VP – Talent Services
ALISON GILL Senior VP – Manufacturing & Operations
HANK KANALZ Senior VP – Publishing Strategy & Support Services
DAN MIRON VP – Publishing Operations
NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP – Manufacturing Administration & Design
NANCY SPEARS VP – Sales
MICHELE R. WELLS VP & Executive Editor, Young Reader

THE FLASH OF TWO WORLDS DELUXE EDITION

Published by DC Comics. Compilation Copyright © 2020 DC Comics. Introduction Copyright © 2009 DC Comics. Foreword Copyright © 2002 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. Originally published in single magazine form in *The Flash* 123, 129, 137, 151, 170, 173. Copyright © 1961, 1962, 1963, 1965, 1967 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters, their distinctive likenesses, and related elements featured in this publication are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters, and incidents featured in this publication are entirely fictional. DC Comics does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. DC – a WarnerMedia Company.

DC Comics, 2900 West Alameda Ave., Burbank, CA 91505

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction by Geoff Johns 4

Foreword by Paul Levitz 5

THE FLASH OF TWO WORLDS 7
From *The Flash* No. 123, September 1961
Writer: Gardner Fox • Inker: Joe Giella

DOUBLE DANGER ON EARTH 33
From *The Flash* No. 129, June 1962
Writer: Gardner Fox • Inker: Joe Giella

VENGEANCE OF THE IMMORTAL VILLAIN 59
From *The Flash* No. 137, June 1963
Writer: Gardner Fox • Inker: Joe Giella

INVADER FROM THE DARK DIMENSION 85
From *The Flash* No. 151, March 1965
Writer: Gardner Fox • Inker: Joe Giella

SEE-NOTHING SPELLS OF ABRA-KADABRA 111
From *The Flash* No. 170, May 1967
Writer: Gardner Fox • Inker: Sid Greene

DOOMWARD FLIGHT OF THE FLASHES 135
From *The Flash* No. 173, September 1967
Writer: John Broome • Inker: Sid Greene

Biographies 159

INTRODUCTION

When I was a kid, the Silver Age was over.

Growing up, I had seen *Superman: The Movie*, I'd watched *Challenge of the Super Friends* and I'd bought the Super Powers DC Heroes action figures, but I didn't really discover comic books until the landmark *Crisis on Infinite Earths* series by Marv Wolfman and George Pérez in the mid-1980s. Ironically, that was the series that did away with the concept of the Multiverse that is introduced in this collection.

I grew up reading Wally West as the Flash, the Justice Society of America as heroes that came before the Justice League of America and had, more or less, retired, and no one ever mentioned "Earth-2." But being the fan of the Flash that I was, I sought out the previous series—just like Barry Allen reading about the adventures of Jay Garrick—and the Flash quickly became my favorite character. Even as I bought new comics, I kept collecting back issues of *The Flash*. There were no collections like this one. There were only comic shops and flea markets and other kids who had old comics to trade. It took me years, up into college, but I had managed to find every issue of Barry Allen's series that I could—except for one. The first story in this collection: *The Flash* #123—written by Gardner Fox, illustrated by Carmine Infantino, and edited by the amazing Julius Schwartz.

Why was *The Flash* #123 so difficult to find? I already knew. I'd read a reprint of it somewhere. I'd seen the cover and other covers based off it for years. I'd read Grant Morrison's new interpretation of it in *Secret Origins* #50. Years after its publication, *The Flash* #123 had become one of the most important stories in the history of the DC Universe.

Since the Scarlet Speedster's introduction in *Showcase* #4, which marked the beginning of the rebirth of superheroes that would be known as the Silver Age of comics, the Flash explored bold, new territories unlike any other hero at the time—from the vast array of villains (including the gimmick-driven would-be thieves known collectively as the Rogues, the super-intelligent Grodd of Gorilla City, and a mad magician from the 64th century) to the time-traveling cosmic treadmill, and, ultimately, with issue #123, the concept of the Multiverse. The Multiverse was an infinite number of parallel worlds, but the first one we ever saw was Earth-2.

Earth-2 became a home for all of the heroes previously published by DC Comics over a decade before, including the former Flash, Jay Garrick. Jay was a scientist like Barry Allen, but apart from that, a very different Flash. Barry and Jay, of course, became fast friends and, thanks to readers' interest, over the next several years they would meet one another for adventures that spanned the Multiverse. Those stories, by Gardner Fox, Carmine Infantino, and John Broome, are in the pages ahead.

Eventually, I did track down a copy of *The Flash* #123. It was beat-up, water-stained, and torn, but the story was all there. And that's all that mattered to me.

—Geoff Johns
April 2009

The author of The Flash: Rebirth, *which re-introduced Barry Allen into the DC Universe, as well as* The Flash *starring Wally West, on which he had a five-year run, Geoff Johns is one of the most prolific and successful comic book writers of his time.*

FOREWORD

Welcome to the birth of three worlds and a Multiverse. In this volume is the very special story that gave life to one fictional world, gave a name to another, gave fuel to the slowly starting "real" world of comics fandom, and made the burgeoning DC Universe a logical Multiverse. I refer, of course, to the classic tale "The Flash of Two Worlds."

Occasional *Flash* writer Gardner Fox and editor Julie Schwartz were fond of their marathon plotting sessions, during which they played with ideas that mixed their mutual love of science fiction with the craft of comics. Did the session that resulted in "The Flash of Two Worlds" begin with Gardner's nostalgia for the original Flash he had co-created, almost 20 years before? Or was it Julie, in search of a cover idea as a spark for a story, who tossed out the "hero meets doppelgänger" concept, an archetypal DC cover scene with proven sales power? Or, as Gardner later wrote about many of his ideas, did Earth-2 simply come to him in a dream, as though from another reality?

However the story was forged, it was built better than its creators knew. The idea that the classic version of the DC heroes lived on, somewhat aged and in semi-retirement, dwelling in an alternate reality called Earth-2, was compelling. Story after story returned to the concept, building the mythology with different connections between the Golden Age characters and their Silver Age successors. Two years later, it gave birth to the first epic story arc of the DC Universe as the Justice League and Justice Society met in the very first "Crisis."

Long after their introduction, the multiple Earths provided fertile ground for generations of writers who grew up on their magic: revivals of *All-Star Comics*, retroactive continuity in *All-Star Squadron*, even the proliferation of countless versions of a common name to be connected in *Starman*. The potential for comparing all the different ways that the lives of heroes and villains could turn out opened endless new creative possibilities. It gave the Silver Age an instant connection to its history and allowed writers to explore alternatives without having to label them as "imaginary stories." It made us all look good and gave us a chance to play with the incredible diversity of DC's history. But, if you're holding this volume, you probably know all that.

What you may not know is how important the story was to the emerging world of organized comics fandom at the time. 1961 was an incredibly creative year in American comics, with the birth of Marvel and the debut of the Fantastic Four, as well as DC's revival of *The Atom* and *Hawkman* in its continuing march of updated Silver Age heroes. But the same group that was creating comics fandom by publishing the early fanzines devoted to comics considered the creative work in this volume—"The Flash of Two Worlds" in particular—to be the best comics of 1961.

In 1962, 750 ballots were sent out to the small group of comic fans who were in touch with each other through the nascent fanzine community—ballots for something called the Alley Awards. The Alleys were the first awards for comics, and issues published with a 1961 cover date were eligible for nomination. Fewer than 200 ballots were returned, and of the 10 awards that were voted on, five were won by the team under these covers:

Best Cover: *The Flash* #123

Best Single Issue of a Comic Book: *The Flash* #123 ("The Flash of Two Worlds")

Best Artist: Carmine Infantino
Best Story: "The Flash of Two Worlds"
Best Supporting Character: Elongated Man

Note also that there was no category for Best Writer. With few comics containing credits in 1961, a Best Artist could plausibly be identified by style, but a Best Writer must have seemed too tough (though the category was instituted by the 1962 Alleys).

It would be nearly a decade before any other single comic book would dominate the awards the way "The Flash of Two Worlds" did. And three decades after it was published, the story placed 12th in a poll of Favorite Stories of the Century conducted by the *Comics Buyer's Guide*, the highest-ranking story of its age.

Thank you, Gardner, Carmine, Joe, Murphy, and Julie, for giving us the gift of worlds.

—Paul Levitz
2002

Paul Levitz is the proud owner of a copy of The Flash *#123 autographed to him by Carmine Infantino during his first visit to DC's offices as a young fan. In the course of his three and a half decades working at DC, Levitz served as a writer, editor, vice president, executive vice president, publisher, and finally president of the company before returning to writing in 2010.*

SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
SEPT.
NO. 123
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
The FLASH
FLASH! HELP ME!
I'M COMING!
I'M COMING!
Featuring "FLASH of TWO WORLDS!"
A SPECTACULAR STORY THAT IS SURE TO BECOME A CLASSIC!

The FLASH

HOW CAN **YOU** POSSIBLY CLAIM TO BE **THE FLASH**, BARRY ALLEN--WHEN **I** --JAY GARRICK--AM **THE FLASH**--AND HAVE BEEN SO FOR MORE THAN **20** YEARS?!

HOW MANY **FLASHES** ARE THERE? **ONE**? **TWO**?

IS **BARRY ALLEN** THE **REAL FLASH**? OR IS **JAY GARRICK**?

DOES **THE FLASH** LIVE IN **CENTRAL CITY**? OR IN **KEYSTONE CITY**?

ONLY ONE THING SEEMS CERTAIN! **BOTH** LIVE ON THE PLANET EARTH! AND ONLY BY TRAVELING TO THAT "OTHER" EARTH CAN **THE FLASH** DISCOVER HIS ALTER EGO AND BECOME THE...

FLASH OF TWO WORLDS!

AT ONE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTER-NOON, BARRY ALLEN HURRIES TOWARD THE CENTRAL CITY COMMUNITY CENTER...

GOSH, I'VE GOT A DATE TO MEET IRIS-- AND I'M LATE AS USUAL! SHE'LL BE FURIOUS!

POLICE WORK TIED ME UP-- BUT ALL SHE'LL CONSIDER IS THE FACT I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THERE AT TWELVE! SHE'S CHAIRLADY OF THE *PICTURE NEWS ORPHAN FUND GROUP*-- ONE OF HER PET PROJECTS...

HE'S LATE! OHHH-- THIS IS JUST TOO MUCH! I'LL NEVER HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIM AGAIN!

OH, BOY! IT'S EVEN WORSE THAN I THOUGHT!

IRIS... I JUST COULDN'T HELP IT! I WAS BUSY AT HEAD-QUARTERS!

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT **YOU**, BARRY! IT'S THAT **MAGICIAN** WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE TO ENTERTAIN THE ORPHANS! HE HASN'T SHOWN UP! THEY'LL BE TERRIBLY DIS-APPOINTED!

Hmm--I CAN'T STAY, IRIS, BUT TO MAKE AMENDS-- SUPPOSE I PHONE **FLASH** AND ASK HIM TO COME OVER AND FILL IN? I JUST LEFT HIM AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS!

THE FLASH? OH, BARRY-- YOU'RE AN ABSOLUTE DARLING!

MOMENTS LATER IN THE SHADOW OF A BUILDING OVERHANG, A RING EJECTS A SCARLET COSTUME THAT INSTANTLY EXPANDS ON CONTACT WITH AIR...

I TOLD IRIS **FLASH** HAD BEEN AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, WHICH WAS TRUE ENOUGH SINCE **I** AM ***THE FLASH***... AND THAT HE'D BE RIGHT OVER, WHICH IS-- ALSO TRUE!

2

MEANWHILE, IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER...

BOYS AND GIRLS-- I HAVE WONDERFUL NEWS! INSTEAD OF A MAGICIAN TO ENTERTAIN YOU, I'VE ARRANGED A SPECIAL SURPRISE VISIT FROM...

--THE WORLD-FAMOUS FLASH-- WHO WILL DEMONSTRATE SOME OF HIS SPECTACULAR SPEED STUNTS-- SEE? HE'S HERE NOW!

;whee!; LOOK AT HIM GO!

WHOOSH!

ON STAGE, AN INSTANT LATER, APPEARS THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER-- IN PERSON...

WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THE KIDS, IRIS? I'M GOING TO NEED THE WHOLE STAGE FOR MY DEMONSTRATION--WHICH INVOLVES PLAYING A GAME OF TENNIS WITH MYSELF!

AT EYE-BLURRING SPEED, THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE SERVES A BALL--THEN BEFORE HIS IMAGE CAN FADE FROM THE RETINA OF THE EYE HE IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE NET-- DRIVING IT BACK...

KIDS, I'M THE FIRST MAN IN HISTORY WHO CAN WIN...

...AND LOSE THE SAME GAME!

3

AFTER AN HOUR OF LISTENING TO THE OOHS AND AAHS OF HAPPY CHILDREN, **THE FLASH** PREPARES TO MAKE THE MOST SENSATIONAL EXIT IN STAGE HISTORY...

IN INDIA, FAKIRS PERFORM A ROPE TRICK, USING HYPNOSIS! I'M GOING TO GO THEM ONE BETTER! WATCH CAREFULLY NOW...

HIS HAND--ROTATING SO SWIFTLY IT CANNOT BE SEEN--KEEPS THE ROPE UPRIGHT IN THE AIR...

NOT ONLY AM I GOING TO CLIMB THE ROPE AND DISAPPEAR--BUT THE ROPE ITSELF WILL VANISH, TOO!

THE ENTHRALLED AUDIENCE WATCHES **THE FLASH** CLIMB UP THE ROPE...

AND WHEN HE REACHES THE TOP...

HE'S GONE!

POP!

WOW! WHAT A TRICK!

SLOWLY THE MINUTES PASS, AND A FROWN OF WORRY CREASES IRIS WEST'S FOREHEAD AS THE CHILDREN CLAMOR AROUND HER...

WHY DOESN'T **FLASH** COME BACK?

WHERE IS HE, MISS WEST?

IT ISN'T LIKE **FLASH** TO DISAPPEAR AND NOT RETURN! WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM?

WHAT **HAS** HAPPENED TO THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER?** BY VIBRATING HIS BODY AND TWIRLING THE ROPE AT SUPER—SPEED, HE DISAPPEARED FROM SIGHT-- **BUT WHERE TO?!**

4

ONE SPLIT-SECOND AFTER HE VANISHES FROM THE STAGE, **FLASH** REAPPEARS ON A LONELY ROAD, STARING ABOUT IN ASTONISHMENT...

WHERE IS EVERY-BODY? WHAT AM I DOING HERE? AND--**WHERE** IS **HERE**?

I COULD HAVE VIBRATED SO SWIFTLY THAT I PASSED THROUGH SOME SORT OF SPACE-WARP! I'M OUTSIDE **CENTRAL CITY**, I GUESS! BUT IT WON'T TAKE ME LONG TO GET BACK TO THE **COMMUNITY CENTER** STAGE!

AS HE RACES THROUGH THE CITY, A VAGUE UNEASINESS STIRS IN HIM...

STRANGE! I DON'T SEE THE **MEMORIAL TOWER**--OR THE **SPORTS STADIUM**! I JUST HOPE I HAVEN'T GONE THROUGH SOME SORT OF **TIME-WARP**.. AND THAT I'LL ENTER **CENTRAL CITY** BEFORE THEY WERE BUILT!

AS HE DASHES INTO THE **COMMUNITY CENTER**, HE FINDS IT DARK AND EMPTY...

WHERE IS EVERYBODY? THIS IS THE **COMMUNITY BUILD-ING**--BUT IT'S DUSTY--LONG UNUSED...

NOW DEFINITELY WORRIED, THE **FASTEST MAN ALIVE** RACES CROSSTOWN...

I'LL STOP BY AND SEE IRIS-- FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED...

A FURTHER SHOCK AWAITS HIM AS...

HUH? THIS ISN'T THE **PICTURE NEWS** BUILDING! INSTEAD--THE **KEYSTONE CITY HERALD** BUILDING IS WHERE IT OUGHT TO BE! WHAT'S GOING ON? WHERE AM I? WHAT--WHAT DAY IS IT?

KEYSTONE CITY HERALD

A GLANCE AT A NEWSPAPER AT A NEARBY STAND RE-ASSURES HIM..

JUNE 14, 1961! WELL, THE DATE'S RIGHT--BUT THE PLACE AND EVERYTHING ELSE--**ISN'T!** I DIDN'T GO INTO THE FUTURE OR THE PAST, THAT'S FOR SURE! I'D BETTER CHECK A LITTLE FURTHER...

KEYSTONE CITY HERALD
JUNE 14, 1961
RECORD HEAT

PARDON ME, SIR--BUT WHERE'S **KEYSTONE CITY?**

HUH--WHO ARE YOU KIDDING? IT'S RIGHT HERE! NOW YOU ANSWER **MY** QUESTION: WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THAT GET-UP?

SORRY! NO TIME TO ANSWER QUESTIONS! I'VE JUST HAD A BRAINSTORM! **KEYSTONE CITY?** COULD IT BE THAT--WHAT I'M THINKING--IS TRUE? "HE" USED TO LIVE THERE!

EXPOSED
REGRET

AT A TELEPHONE BOOTH IN A STATIONERY STORE...

SURE ENOUGH--HERE IT IS! **JAY GARRICK!** **KEYSTONE CITY!** MY THEORY--IMPOSSIBLE AS IT SEEMS--MUST BE TRUE! I'LL SOON FIND OUT!

Garrett-Garvin
Garrick Jay....5252 78St. ....KE

FOLLOWING THE STREET SIGNS, THE **CRIMSON COMET** NEARS 78th STREET...

BETTER GET OUT OF MY **FLASH** OUTFIT--AND SHOW UP AT THAT ADDRESS AS **BARRY ALLEN!**

A SECRET SPRING IN HIS RING IS PRESSED, ACTIVATING A DEVICE WHICH COMPRESSES HIS UNIFORM AND SUCKS IT BACK INTO A COMPARTMENT IN THE RING...

6

THEN BARRY'S FOREFINGER RINGS THE BELL AT 5252 78th STREET! THE DOOR OPENS AND...

YES--YOU'RE JAY GARRICK! A BIT OLDER--

YOU SEEM TO KNOW ME--BUT I DON'T RE-CALL EVER MEETING YOU!

5252

MAY I SEE YOU IN PRIVATE, PLEASE? I SHARE A SECRET KNOWN ONLY TO YOU AND YOUR GIRL FRIEND-- JOAN WILLIAMS!

COME IN! THIS IS THE FORMER JOAN WILLIAMS--NOW MRS. JAY GARRICK! BUT WHAT DEEP SECRET ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

BEFORE YOU ASK ME ANY QUESTIONS--LET ME TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW ABOUT YOU! BACK IN 1940, JAY GARRICK--YOU WERE A STUDENT AT MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY! WHILE WORKING ON AN EXPERIMENT IN THE COLLEGE LABORATORY...

"YOU ACCIDENTALLY KNOCKED OVER A RETORT FILLED WITH HARD WATER! YOU INHALED ITS FUMES..."

Whew! THAT GAS IS POWERFUL STUFF! IT'S--TOO MUCH FOR ME...

"YOU LAY UNCONSCIOUS ALL NIGHT LONG, BREATHING IN THE GASES EMANATING FROM THE HARD WATER! WHEN PROFESSOR HUGHES FOUND YOU, YOU WERE PRETTY FAR GONE..."

JAY, MY BOY--HELP! SOMEBODY--HELP ME!

7

"AFTER SPENDING SOME WEEKS IN THE HOSPITAL RECOVERING, YOU EMERGED IN PERFECT HEALTH TO BECOME--**THE FLASH!** YOU FOUGHT CRIME AND CRIMINALS--AND OVER-CAME INJUSTICE...: "

AS HE CONCLUDES HIS NARRATIVE, BARRY SEES A STRANGE LOOK PASS BETWEEN JAY GARRICK AND HIS WIFE...

HOW COULD HE POSSIBLY KNOW ALL THAT?

WE WERE SURE WE'D KEPT THAT SECRET SO WELL! HOW DID HE FIND OUT?

BEFORE I TELL YOU THAT, WATCH AS I PRESS THIS RING--

SOMETHING SHOOTING OUT OF THE RING--

LOOKS LIKE A COSTUME--

DONNING HIS UNIFORM, BARRY ALLEN BECOMES **THE FLASH...**

YOU SEE, ON **MY** EARTH, I AM ALSO-- **THE FLASH!** JUST AS YOU ARE-- ON **YOURS!**

TWO EARTHS? WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT?

RAPIDLY, BARRY (**FLASH**) ALLEN RELATES HIS RECENT EX-PERIENCE ON THE STAGE OF THE **COMMUNITY CENTER**, THEN...

THE WAY I SEE IT, I VIBRATED SO FAST--I TORE A GAP IN THE VIBRATORY SHIELDS SEPARATING OUR WORLDS! AS YOU KNOW--TWO OBJECTS CAN OCCUPY THE SAME SPACE AND TIME-- IF THEY VIBRATE AT DIFFERENT SPEEDS!

8

MY THEORY IS, BOTH EARTHS WERE CREATED AT THE SAME TIME IN TWO QUITE SIMILAR UNIVERSES! THEY VIBRATE DIFFERENTLY--WHICH KEEPS THEM APART! LIFE, CUSTOMS--EVEN LANGUAGES--EVOLVED ON YOUR EARTH ALMOST EXACTLY AS THEY DID ON MY EARTH! DESTINY MUST HAVE DECREED THERE'D BE A ***FLASH***--ON EACH EARTH!

MY NAME IS BARRY ALLEN! I'M A POLICE SCIENTIST! I LIVE IN ***CENTRAL CITY***, WHICH IS ALMOST THE IDENTICAL TWIN OF YOUR ***KEYSTONE CITY***, EXCEPT FOR A FEW DETAILS! ONE NIGHT, I, TOO, WAS WORKING ON AN EXPERIMENT...

"SUDDENLY A LIGHTNING FLASH HIT MY EQUIPMENT, SMASHING VIALS OF CHEMICALS, BATHING ME IN THEM..."

CRAACK!

"DAZED--I CROUCHED AMID THE WRECKAGE OF THOSE VIALS AND CONTAINERS, DRIPPING FROM THE STRANGE BATH I'D BEEN COMPELLED TO TAKE..."

LIGHTNING...CERTAINLY IS--UNPREDICTABLE! IT KNOCKED ME OVER--BUT DIDN'T SCRATCH THE CABINET--BROKE ONLY CERTAIN CHEMICALS AND BATHED ME IN THEM!

"SLIGHTLY WOOZY, I STARTED HOMEWARD ONLY TO DISCOVER I COULD OUTRUN A TAXICAB..."

WH--WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?

9

SO YOU SEE, I BECAME THE SUPER-FAST **FLASH** ON MY EARTH MUCH AS YOU BECAME **THE FLASH** ON YOURS! INDEED, READING OF **YOUR FLASH ADVENTURES** INSPIRED ME TO ASSUME THE SECRET IDENTITY OF **THE FLASH!**

WHAT?! HOW DID YOU EVER READ ABOUT **ME?**

YOU WERE ONCE WELL-KNOWN IN MY WORLD-- AS A FICTIONAL CHARACTER APPEARING IN A MAGAZINE CALLED **FLASH COMICS!** WHEN I WAS A YOUNGSTER-- YOU WERE MY FAVORITE HERO! A WRITER NAMED **GARDNER FOX** WROTE ABOUT YOUR ADVENTURES-- WHICH HE CLAIMED CAME TO HIM IN DREAMS!

OBVIOUSLY WHEN **FOX** WAS ASLEEP, HIS MIND WAS "TUNED IN" ON YOUR VIBRATORY EARTH! THAT EXPLAINS HOW HE "DREAMED UP" **THE FLASH!** THE MAGAZINE WAS DISCONTINUED IN 1949!

AMAZING! THAT'S THE VERY YEAR I--**THE FLASH**-- RETIRED...

YOU KNOW, I HAD NO SUCH INGENIOUS WAY OF GETTING IN AND OUT OF MY OUTFIT AS YOU DO! I SIMPLY TOSSED MY GARMENTS ASIDE AND KEPT MY **FLASH** COSTUME ON UNDER THEM! ODD, THAT YOU SHOULD APPEAR JUST NOW, BARRY-- WHEN I'VE BEEN THINKING OF COMING OUT OF RETIREMENT!

I'VE KEPT MYSELF IN GOOD SHAPE SO THERE'LL BE NO TROUBLE GETTING INTO MY OUTFIT! I'M STILL AS FAST AS EVER--THOUGH I NO LONGER HAVE MY FORMER ENDURANCE! NOW TO THE REASON WHY I'M MAKING A COMEBACK...

"YESTERDAY, THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF UNUSUAL THEFTS OCCURRED IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, WHEN IN THE **KEYSTONE CITY BANK**, MONEY LEAPED FROM THE TELLER'S CASH DRAWERS--TO DISAPPEAR!"

Ohhh--THE MONEY.. FADING AWAY...!

10

"THE SECOND STRANGE ROBBERY TOOK PLACE AT NOON IN **CARMODY'S JEWEL SALON**-- WHEN AN ODD BLACKNESS DESCENDED OVER EVERYTHING..."

I LIT A MATCH AND AM HOLDING IT IN FRONT OF ME--YET CAN'T SEE THE FLAME!

WHAT'S WRONG?

"WHEN THE PALL LIFTED, THE MOST VALUABLE GEMS IN THE STORE WERE MISSING!"

WE'VE BEEN ROBBED! SOUND THE ALARM!

"THE THIRD CRIME WAS COMMITTED WHEN STRANGE, EERIE MUSIC WAS HEARD-- AND SECONDS AFTERWARD, AN ARMORED BANK CAR CRASHED INTO A STONE WALL..."

WHILE WE WERE UNCONSCIOUS FROM THE CRASH-- SOMEBODY BROKE INTO THE CAR AND LOOTED IT!

THE POLICE ARE COMPLETELY BAFFLED! I'VE BEEN THINKING THAT ***THE FLASH*** MIGHT GIVE THEM A HAND..

AND I'D LIKE TO GIVE ***YOU*** A HAND, JAY! AS LONG AS I'M HERE, I'LL JOIN FORCES WITH YOU-- AND HELP SOLVE THE CRIMES!

GLAD TO HAVE YOU, ***FLASH!***

WHOEVER THOSE CROOKS ARE-- THEY'RE IN FOR DOUBLE ***FLASH*** TROUBLE!

The Flash

CHAPTER 2

FLASH of TWO WORLDS!

UNKNOWN TO EITHER OF THE TWO **FLASHES**, IN A MAGNIFICENT ROOM FITTED OUT WITH STOLEN TREASURES SIT THREE MEN--**THE THINKER**--**THE FIDDLER**--**THE SHADE**--EACH A MASTER CRIMINAL, AN AVOWED FOE OF THE **FASTEST MAN ALIVE**! ALREADY, EACH HAS COMMITTED A ROBBERY! NOW THEY PLAN MORE...

EACH OF US HAS RECENTLY ESCAPED FROM THE PRISON WHERE **THE FLASH** PUT US!

THAT'S WHY WE'VE RETURNED TO **KEYSTONE CITY** AND JOINED FORCES, **THINKER**!

RIGHT YOU ARE, **FIDDLER**! TO CARRY ON WHERE WE LEFT OFF--TO ROB AND LOOT! AND IF LUCK'S WITH US, TO DESTROY OUR ARCH-ENEMY, **THE FLASH**!

THE THINKER CLASPS HIS HANDS OVER AN ODD METAL HAT...

YES, IT'S JUST POSSIBLE **THE FLASH** WILL COME OUT OF RETIREMENT TO TRY AND STOP US! BUT WITH THIS **THINKING CAP**--WHICH CAN CAUSE ANYTHING I THINK OF TO HAPPEN WITHIN FIFTY YARDS OF ME--I'M WELL-ARMED TO DEFEAT HIM!

THE FIDDLER LIFTS HIS STRADIVARIUS VIOLIN...

MORE THAN A DOZEN YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE WE SAW **THE FLASH**! NOW THAT I'VE IMPROVED MY FIDDLE, I'LL MAKE MYSELF RICH AND OVERCOME **FLASH** AT THE SAME TIME! WHILE IN JAIL WE HEARD NOTHING ABOUT **HIM**--BUT I HOPE NOW HE HEARS ABOUT **US**!

THE SHADE TOUCHES THE UNIQUE CANE WHICH IS HIS OWN INVENTION, AND CHUCKLES...

I ALSO IMPROVED MY CANE HERE, WHICH MAKES ABSOLUTE DARKNESS FOR ME! I THINK, FELLOW CONSPIRATORS, WE ARE READY! FOR EVERY TRICK **THE FLASH** MIGHT HAVE, WE CAN GO HIM ONE BETTER!

12

ABRUPTLY THE THINKER CLAPS THE METAL CAP ON HIS HEAD...

I'M OFF NOW--TO STEAL THE PRICELESS NEPTUNE CUP FROM MILLIONAIRE EDWARD JARVIS!

LIKE THAT?! SURELY YOU'RE NOT GOING TO WEAR YOUR THINKING CAP IN PUBLIC?

YOU DON'T SEE THE THINKING CAP NOW, DO YOU? JUST AN ORDINARY FEDORA! THAT'S BECAUSE I'LL PLACE A MENTAL COMMAND ON WHOEVER NOTICES ME--TO SEE ONLY SUCH A HAT!

AMAZING, THINKER! AND WHILE YOU'RE OFF AFTER THE NEPTUNE CUP, I'LL BE ON MY WAY TO THE KEYSTONE MUSEUM!

THE EUROPEAN CROWN JEWELS ARE ON DISPLAY AT THE MUSEUM--BUT WOULD LOOK MUCH BETTER IN OUR POSSESSION, AGREED?

AGREED, FIDDLER! AS FOR MYSELF I'M OFF TO THE WATERFRONT--WHERE A COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL CURIOS WORTH MILLIONS OF DOLLARS LIES WAITING FOR MY FINGERS!

AT THIS MOMENT, IN THE GARRICK HOME, JAY SWITCHES TO THE FLASH IN HIS CUSTOMARY MANNER...

NOT AS SPECTACULAR AS YOUR RING, BARRY--BUT EFFECTIVE ENOUGH IN ITS OWN WAY!

I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW EXCITED I AM TO BE GOING OFF ON A CASE WITH MY BOY-HOOD HERO!

SIDE BY SIDE THE TWO SCARLET SPEEDSTERS RACE ACROSS KEYSTONE CITY...

WE'D BETTER SPLIT UP HERE! APART, WE CAN COMPLETELY COVER THE CITY IN A MATTER OF MINUTES!

FINE! WE'LL MEET BACK AT YOUR HOUSE!

SOON AFTER, ON THE BROAD LAWNS OF THE JARVIS ESTATE...

I GAINED MY REPUTATION BY THINKING OUT MY CRIMES TO THE MINUTEST DETAIL! I EVEN PLANNED HOW TO USE THOSE WATCH-DOGS--TO HELP ME OVERCOME THE FLASH!

13

MENTALLY DOMINATING THE WATCHDOGS, **THE THINKER** PROJECTS AN IMAGE OF **THE FLASH** AND ISSUES A COMMAND...

WHEN AND IF THIS MAN APPEARS--CALL OUT TO HIM--TELL HIM WHAT'S HAPPENING INSIDE THE HOUSE!

PROCEEDING TO THE FRONT DOOR OF THE JARVIS MANSION...

PLEASE COME IN, SIR!

HA HA! I'M USING MY MENTAL POWERS WHICH THE **THINKING CAP** MULTIPLIES ENORMOUSLY--TO HAVE THE BUTLER INVITE ME IN!

BY INCREASING THE ENERGY GIVEN OFF BY THE BRAIN TO ITS FULLEST CAPACITY, I CAN WORK SCIENTIFIC MIRACLES!

YOU'RE HERE TO STEAL THE ***NEPTUNE CUP?*** A PLEASURE, SIR, TO BE ROBBED BY YOU! ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU WHERE THE CUP IS!

THERE! I'VE UNLOCKED THE CABINET IN WHICH I KEEP IT!

A BEAUTIFUL PIECE OF WORKMANSHIP! NOW--LEAVE ME ALONE SO I MAY ADMIRE IT!

AT THIS MOMENT, SPEEDING PAST THE JARVIS ESTATE COMES THE "OLD" **FLASH**...

FLASH--WAIT! THE THINKER IS INSIDE THE HOUSE--STEALING THE NEPTUNE CUP!

HUH? AM I HEARING THINGS? THOSE DOGS--TALKING! ESPECIALLY ABOUT--THE THINKER?

THE LAST I HEARD OF THE THINKER HE WAS IN JAIL! BUT ONLY HE COULD HAVE DREAMED UP SUCH A BIZARRE TOUCH! THIS MEANS HE'S EXPECTING ME--SO I'LL RUN SO FAST I'LL GO THROUGH THE WALL WITHOUT HARMING IT--AND SURPRISE HIM!

A MOMENT LATER, THE **FASTEST MAN ALIVE** LAYS HANDS ON THE INFAMOUS ARCH-CRIMINAL...

CAUGHT YOU, **THINKER**-- RIGHT IN THE ACT! YOU'RE GOING BACK TO JAIL-- TO STAY!

SUDDENLY...

OH, HELLO, **FLASH!** WHAT WERE YOU SAYING ABOUT CATCHING ME?

WHAT?! HOW DID YOU SLIP OUT OF MY FINGERS? HAVE I SLOWED DOWN SO MUCH OVER THE YEARS THAT--I'M NOT AS FAST AS I ONCE WAS?

AGAIN THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER** LEAPS FORWARD TO MAKE HIS CAPTURE...

GOT YOU! THIS TIME YOU WON'T GET AWAY!

AND AGAIN THE GREAT MASTER-MIND ELUDES HIS CAPTOR...

I--I CAN'T UNDER-STAND IT! I MUST HAVE SLOWED DOWN TREMENDOUSLY!

BACK AND FORTH-- RACING LIKE THE STREAK OF A LIGHTNING BOLT-- **THE FLASH** SPEEDS FROM THINKER TO THINKER-- HELPLESSLY...

;PUFF; ;PUFF; I SEEM TO BE AS FAST AS I EVER WAS, YET HE KEEPS ESCAPING ME! WHAT'S WRONG?

15

EXHAUSTED AND WEARY, THE FLASH LEANS AGAINST A CURIO CASE AS...

HE'S JUST TOO MUCH FOR ME! PUFF PUFF

SINCE YOU ADMIT IT, FLASH--I'LL MAKE MY REAL APPEARANCE FROM THIS CLOSET! THOSE OTHER "THINKERS" YOU SAW WERE ONLY MENTAL MIRAGES! IT WAS SO MUCH FUN TO SEE YOU KNOCK YOUR— SELF OUT TRYING TO CATCH THEM!

I'VE DECIDED TO LET YOU LIVE -- SO YOU CAN FURNISH ME WITH MORE AMUSEMENT AT A LATER DATE! NOW THAT I'VE HAD MY FUN--AND THE NEPTUNE CUP-- I'LL BID YOU FAREWELL!

N-NO! YOU WON'T GET AWAY, THINKER...

AS HIS QUARRY LEAVES THE ROOM, THE CRIMSON COMET SPURTS FORWARD...

I'VE GOT TO SUMMON UP WHAT'S LEFT OF MY STRENGTH--OVER-TAKE HIM--

I'LL SLAM THE DOOR SHUT--WITH MENTAL ENERGY!

AND JUST AS THE FLASH REACHES THE DOOR-WAY...

TOOK ME BY SURPRISE... HAD NO CHANCE TO VIBRATE THROUGH-- I'M BLACKING OUT!

IN THE MEANTIME, ALONG THE WATER-FRONT WHERE A PRIVATE YACHT HAS DOCKED, A STRANGE BLACK CLOUD ENVELOPS THE SHIP...

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS THAT ODD BLACKNESS? IT'S SO DEEP AND THICK I CAN'T SEE ANY-THING INSIDE IT! I BETTER INVESTIGATE...

16

IN THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN...

MY SPECIAL CONTACT LENSES ENABLE ME TO SEE IN THIS DEEP DARKNESS! Ahh--THIS IS THE LAST OF THE HISTORICAL CURIOS WHICH ARE VALUED AT OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS!

ON THE MAIN DECK, **THE FLASH** IS STUMBLING ALONG HELPLESSLY, BLINDED BY THE PITCH-BLACK FOG...

I CAN'T KEEP GROPING LIKE THIS! I'VE GOT TO GET RID OF THIS DARKNESS SO I'LL KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!

AROUND AND AROUND--FASTER AND FASTER--SPINS THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER**--SETTING INTO ROTATION THE DARKNESS AROUND HIM...

GATHERING MOMENTUM, THE DARKNESS ROTATES MORE SWIFTLY, UNTIL ONLY A TORNADO-LIKE FUNNEL REMAINS...

THERE! WITH THE DARKNESS CONCENTRATED ALL IN ONE PLACE, I CAN SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

OTHER EYES ALSO SEE THAT EBONY COLUMN AND ARE STUNNED BY IT

ONLY **FLASH** COULD HAVE DONE THAT! I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE--FAST!

WITHIN SPLIT-SECONDS, THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER** HAS SEARCHED THE YACHT FROM PROW TO STERN AND...

THE HISTORICAL CURIOS TO BE EXHIBITED IN THIS COUNTRY ARE GONE AND--AH! THAT SPEED-BOAT HAS A MAN IN IT WHO LOOKS SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE A VILLAIN I ONCE READ ABOUT IN THE OLD ***FLASH COMICS*--THE SHADE!**

YES, **FLASH**--I'M HERE! **THE SHADE!** BUT-- YOU LOOK DIFFERENT THAN YOU USED TO! HOW COME?

YOU'LL FIND OUT--AFTER I CATCH YOU!

MY FIRST BLACKOUT TRICK DIDN'T STOP **FLASH**--BUT THIS ONE WILL!

FROM THE SHADE'S CANE THICK BLACK STREAMERS OF UTTER DARKNESS SHOOT FORTH ACROSS THE WATERS...

YOU DON'T THINK THAT BLACKOUT STUNT WILL WORK A SECOND TIME, DO YOU?

THERE'S MORE TO THIS DARKNESS THAN MEETS THE EYE, **FLASH!**

AS **FLASH** DASHES INTO THAT AWESOME BLACKNESS, HIS FEET SHOOT OUT FROM UNDER HIM AND...

OH! HE MIXED **OIL** WITH THE DARKNESS-- MAKING THE WATER SO **SLIPPERY** I-- CAN'T STAND UP! I'M FALLING! **THE SHADE** WILL-- GET AWAY!

18

SOME TIME LATER, IN THE GARRICK HOUSE...

THERE YOU ARE, JAY! I'M AFRAID I'VE GOT TO REPORT--**FAILURE!** I HAD **THE SHADE** AND--HE GOT AWAY!

MUCH AS I REGRET SAYING IT--THE SAME THING HAPPENED TO ME AGAINST **THE THINKER!**

THOSE ARCH-VILLAINS HAVE COME UP WITH IMPROVED TECHNIQUES! IT WON'T BE AS EASY TO STOP THEM AS I THOUGHT!

THEN WHY DON'T WE WORK TOGETHER--AS A TEAM? WE OUGHT TO BE TWICE AS EFFECTIVE THAT WAY!

TOGETHER, **NEW FLASH** AND **OLD FLASH** STREAK OUT TO TAKE UP THE CHALLENGES OF THE SUPER-CRIMINALS--UNITING AS A DUO FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME...

BUT, UNKNOWN TO THE **FLASH** PAIR, A STARTLING SURPRISE AWAITS THEM WHEN THEY COME TO GRIPS WITH THE LAST OF THE VILLAINOUS TRIO.. *The* FIDDLER!

THE WHIRLWIND ACTION STARTS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE...

19

The FLASH

CHAPTER 3

FLASH of TWO WORLDS!

MY VIOLIN WILL CAUSE DISTRACTIONS TO OCCUR-- LIKE THAT SHOWER OF BROKEN WINDOWS WHICH CAUSES PEOPLE TO SCRAMBLE OUT OF THE WAY--SO NO ONE WILL PAY ME ANY ATTENTION!

AS THE FIDDLER MOVES THROUGH KEYSTONE CITY ON HIS WAY TO THE MUSEUM, HIS FIDDLE CAR UNDER AUTO-MATIC CONTROLS, THE EERIE MUSIC FROM HIS STRADI-VARIUS CAUSES ODD ACCIDENTS TO HAPPEN AHEAD OF HIM...

SHORTLY, AS THE TWO FLASHES BURST ONTO THE SCENE ...

HELP! HELP ME!

THAT CONSTRUCTION WORK UP AHEAD! SOMEONE'S IN TROUBLE!

ON EITHER SIDE OF A FALLING METAL GIRDER, THEY DASH TOWARD A MAN PINNED TO THE GROUND IN ITS PATH..

HELP ME, FLASH! SAVE ME!

I'M COMING!

I'M COMING!

MOVING AT SUPER-SPEED, ONE FLASH GRIPS THE FALLEN MAN...

GOT YOU!

WHILE THE OTHER **FLASH**...

BY CREATING A POWERFUL UPDRAFT, I'M CAUSING THE GIRDER TO RISE INTO THE AIR, BACK TO THE POSITION IT FELL FROM!

THE GIRDER FELL WHEN STRANGE MUSIC--LIKE FROM A VIOLIN--WAS HEARD! I SPRAINED MY ANKLE WHEN I RAN TO GET OUT OF ITS WAY! I COULDN'T MOVE!

STRANGE VIOLIN MUSIC? SOUNDS LIKE MY OLD FOE **THE FIDDLER**! HIS MUSIC CAN DO MIGHTY STRANGE TRICKS! COME ON, **FLASH**--HE CAN'T BE FAR AWAY!

ONCE MORE THE TWIN THUNDERBOLTS HURTLE INTO ACTION AS THEY TRAIL A SERIES OF ODD ACCIDENTS TO THE **KEYSTONE CITY MUSEUM**...

THERE'S HIS **FIDDLE CAR**! NOBODY'D NOTICE IT THERE, THE MUSEUM'S IN SUCH AN OUT OF THE WAY PLACE! HE MUST BE INSIDE!

VIBRATING IN UNISON, THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTERS** CATAPULT FORWARD...

WHAT'S HE UP TO--PLAYING HIS VIOLIN?

HE'S NOT JUST FIDDLING AROUND HERE FOR THE LOVE OF IT--THAT'S FOR SURE!

MEANWHILE, AT THE CROOKS' SECRET HIDE-AWAY...

HA! HA! YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN **FLASH** TRYING TO CATCH THOSE MENTAL IMAGES OF ME! I NEVER LAUGHED SO MUCH IN MY LIFE!

ODD THAT HE SHOULD HAVE CHANGED SO MUCH SINCE WE LAST SAW HIM! HE LOOKED **YOUNGER**--WORE A DIFFERENT COSTUME!

21

DIFFERENT COSTUME? HE WORE THE **SAME ONE**! AND HE LOOKED THE SAME AS ALWAYS TO ME! A LITTLE SLOWER, SOMEWHAT OLDER--

WAIT--THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER! THERE MUST NOW BE **TWO FLASHES**! AND--IF THAT'S THE CASE, **THE FIDDLER** MAY BE IN **DOUBLE TROUBLE**!

WE BETTER SET OUT AT ONCE--REACH THE MUSEUM BEFORE THOSE **TWO FLASHES** OVERCOME **THE FIDDLER**!

I HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE!

SHORTLY, AT THE **KEYSTONE CITY MUSEUM** *...*

NO SIGN OF TROUBLE! WE'RE IN TIME!

FIDDLER--THERE ARE **TWO FLASHES**! COME ON, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! WE CAN COPE WITH ONE--BUT **TWO** MAY BE TOO MUCH FOR US!

RELAX, MY FRIENDS! I CAN TAKE TWO **FLASHES** IN STRIDE AS EASILY AS ONE! JUST WATCH AS I PLAY MY VIOLIN...

IN STUNNED AMUSEMENT **THE THINKER** *GASPS AND* **THE SHADE** *GAWKS AS...*

THERE THEY ARE--AND THEY'RE UNDER THE SPELL OF YOUR MUSIC!

THEY'RE DANCING--LIKE PUPPETS!

BY EREBUS! THEY'RE NOT ONLY DANCING-- THEY'RE ACTUALLY STEALING THE JEWELS FOR YOU!

YES! YOU TWO FLASHES-- NEVER MIND THOSE LITTLE INDIVIDUAL GEMS! JUST BRING ME THE BIG JEWELED TREASURES--THE CROWNS AND SCEPTRES!

HELPLESS BEFORE THE OVERPOWERING MUSIC-- THE TWIN THUNDERBOLTS FILL THEIR HANDS WITH PRICELESS OBJECTS AND BRING THEM TO THE FIDDLER...

YOU SEE? THEY ARE POWERLESS TO RESIST MY MUSICAL COMMANDS!

ENOUGH OF THIS! I HAVE THE PRIZE JEWELS--AND WE'VE TAUGHT BOTH FLASHES OUR POWER! TO MAKE CERTAIN THEY DON'T BOTHER US FOR A WHILE-- I'LL FREEZE THEM SOLID FOR 24 HOURS!

AS THE EERIE STRAINS OF MUSIC FLOAT AROUND THEM, BOTH FLASHES GO RIGID...

THAT'LL HOLD THEM! NOW LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

BUT AS THE FIDDLER AND HIS COHORTS TURN TO LEAVE THE MUSEUM...

HOLD ON, YOU CROOKS!

YOU AREN'T GOING ANY-WHERE!

THEY'RE FREE?! I BETTER GIVE THEM A HEAVIER DOSE--

AS THE "OLD" FLASH RACES PAST THE SHADE, HE SENDS HIM WHIRLING...

YOU'RE REALLY IN THE DARK NOW, SHADE! YOU'RE SPINNING SO FAST YOU CAN'T SEE A THING!

SIMULTANEOUSLY, THE OTHER **FLASH** GRASPS **THE FIDDLER'S** HANDS AND MOVES THEM SO SWIFTLY THAT...

THIS MAY BE THE FIRST **MUSICAL HANDCUFFS** IN THE LONG HISTORY OF CRIME!

WORKING AS ONE, FOUR HANDS DISASSEMBLE THE **THINKING CAP** BEFORE **THE THINKER** CAN GATHER HIS WITS FOR A SINGLE THOUGHT...

MINUTES LATER, THE THREE ARCH-CRIMINALS ARE BEING BOOKED AT THE LOCAL POLICE STATION...

I STILL CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW YOU OVERCAME MY FIDDLE!

LIKE ALL CROOKS, YOU MADE A MISTAKE, **FIDDLER!** WE WERE FORCED TO OBEY YOU-- BUT YOU NEGLECTED TO ORDER US NOT TO TRY AND ESCAPE!

WHEN WE PICKED UP THOSE TINY GEMS WE PLACED THEM IN OUR EARS, RATHER THAN DISCARD THEM WHEN YOU SAID TO BRING YOU LARGER JEWELS!

THOUGH WE COULD STILL HEAR YOU, THE GEMS DISTORTED THE PITCH OF YOUR MUSIC JUST ENOUGH SO THAT IT NO LONGER HAD ANY EFFECT ON US!

LATER, AT A SPOT OUTSIDE **KEYSTONE CITY**...

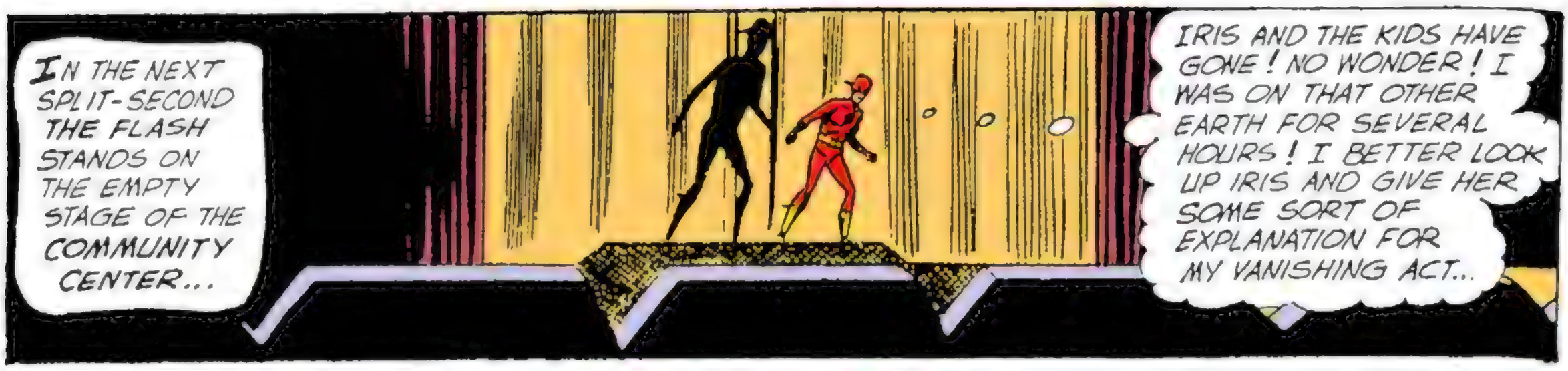
THIS IS WHERE I VIBRATED INTO YOUR WORLD, JAY! IT'S TIME NOW TO RETURN TO MY OWN! I HOPE YOU CAN VISIT ME SOME DAY...

MAYBE I WILL, BARRY! NOW THAT I'VE COME OUT OF RETIREMENT, I THINK I'LL GO ON BEING **THE FLASH!**

THE "OLD" **FLASH** WATCHES THE "NEW" **FLASH** VIBRATE FASTER AND FASTER UNTIL HE BLURS OUT OF SIGHT...

SO THAT'S HOW HE DOES IT! I MUST REMEMBER-- SO I CAN VISIT HIS EARTH SOMETIME!

24


IN THE NEXT SPLIT-SECOND THE FLASH STANDS ON THE EMPTY STAGE OF THE COMMUNITY CENTER...
IRIS AND THE KIDS HAVE GONE! NO WONDER! I WAS ON THAT OTHER EARTH FOR SEVERAL HOURS! I BETTER LOOK UP IRIS AND GIVE HER SOME SORT OF EXPLANATION FOR MY VANISHING ACT...
IT SURE IS SWELL TO SEE MEMORIAL TOWER AND THE SPORTS STADIUM--AND KNOW I'M HOME IN CENTRAL CITY! AH-- AND THERE'S THE PICTURE NEWS BUILDING UP AHEAD!
AND AFTER FLASH GIVES A HALF-HEARTED EXPLANATION OF HIS DISAPPEARANCE...
--AND THAT'S ALL YOU CAN TELL ME, FLASH? THAT YOU TOOK OFF ON A MOST UNUSUAL CASE? I'M SURE OUR READERS WOULD LIKE TO HEAR WHAT HAPPENED--
IRIS--HONESTLY--IF THEY READ IT IN YOUR NEWSPAPER, THEY'D SAY IT WAS PURE FICTION!
THE ONLY ONES WHO'D REALLY BELIEVE IT WOULD BE THE READERS OF FLASH COMICS! THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO LOOK UP GARDNER FOX WHO WROTE THE ORIGINAL FLASH STORIES AND TELL IT TO HIM! HE CAN WRITE THE WHOLE THING UP IN A COMIC BOOK!
The End
25

The Flash

SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
The FLASH
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
JUNE
NO. 129
Featuring... A PAIR OF FLASHES VS. A DUO OF VILLAINS
in "DOUBLE DANGER ON EARTH!"

THE FLASH

WHEN A COMET CRASHES INTO THE SUN OF EARTH--RELEASING A DEADLY RADIATION PERIL THAT THREATENS TO END ALL LIFE--ONE MAN ALONE KNOWS A WAY TO OVERCOME IT!

TO DO THIS HE MUST LEAVE HIS OWN WORLD AND JOURNEY TO A PLANET WHICH IS ALMOST EARTH'S DUPLICATE--AND IS ALSO CALLED **EARTH!** HERE JAY (**FLASH**) GARRICK TEAMS UP WITH BARRY (**FLASH**) ALLEN TO WARD OFF A --

DOUBLE DANGER ON EARTH!

NOW THAT WE'RE WORKING AS A TEAM, **TRICKSTER**-- YOU SEE HOW EASILY WE CAN BEAT EVEN **TWO FLASHES!**

I HAVE TO HAND IT TO YOU, **CAPTAIN COLD!** YOU'RE A COOL CUSTOMER, ALL RIGHT!

DURING LATE MARCH OF THE YEAR 1962, A MIGHTY COMET HURTLES THROUGH THE SOLAR SYSTEM-- BUT INSTEAD OF FOLLOWING AN ORBIT THAT WILL CARRY IT AROUND THE SUN, IT HEADS STRAIGHT FOR THE SOLAR BODY...

IT DRIVES DEEP INTO THE SUN ON APRIL 1, 1962--AND A GIGANTIC FLARE OF EPSILON RADIOACTIVITY RIPS OUTWARD FROM THE AWESOME COLLISION...

THAT TYPE OF RADIOACTIVITY IS DEADLY TOWARD ALL LIFE ON EARTH!

IF WE CAN'T FIND A WAY TO STOP OR ABSORB IT IN TIME--MANKIND IS DOOMED!

WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY, READER? THERE'S NO RECORD OF A COMET HAVING HIT THE EARTH'S SUN ON APRIL 1, 1962? AH, BUT IT **DID**--AND AS IT DID A WAVE OF TERRIBLE RADIATION MENACED EVERY LIVING THING ON EARTH! THIS IS **NO APRIL FOOL'S JOKE**--NOR IS IT MERE **FICTION!** HOWEVER, THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR ALARM...

FOR AS **FLASH** READERS KNOW, THERE IS **ANOTHER EARTH**--ALMOST AN EXACT DUPLICATE OF OUR OWN--WHERE **THE FLASH** IS NOT **BARRY ALLEN** BUT AN OLDER MAN NAMED **JAY GARRICK**...

HOW BAD IS IT, JAY?

PRETTY BAD, JOAN! IN FACT--IT'S MORTALLY DANGEROUS!

5¢ KEYST

DEADLY RADIATION HITS EARTH FROM THE SUN!

YES, READER, IN THIS OTHER WORLD **THE FLASH** IS **JAY GARRICK**, WHO WAS MADE SUPER-SWIFT WHEN HE KNOCKED OVER A RETORT FILLED WITH **HARD WATER** AND INHALED THE FUMES...

2

IT IS THIS OTHER EARTH, THEN, THAT FACES THE GRIM RADIATION PERIL, NOT OUR OWN! FOR, AS JAY GARRICK EXPLAINS...

WHEN THE COMET CRASHED INTO THE SUN, IT WAS LIKE A MIGHTY ATOMIC BOMB EXPLODING--ONLY ON A COSMIC SCALE!

EVERY ATOM BOMB EXPLOSION GIVES OFF HEAT AND A SHOCK-WAVE AND A RADIOACTIVE DUST CALLED "FALLOUT"! THE EXTENT OF THAT FALL-OUT IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF **ROENTGENS!** A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF THOSE **ROENTGENS** IS MORTALLY DANGEROUS!

"AS TIME GOES ON, THIS RADIOACTIVITY WILL BUILD UP IN OUR ATMOSPHERE, ITS **ROENTGENS** BECOMING MORE AND MORE DEADLY UNTIL EARTH TURNS INTO A LIFELESS PLANET..."

THE RADIATION IS LIKE A GIGANTIC ATOMIC BLAST TAKING PLACE IN THE SUN! IT WILL GET WORSE AND WORSE! PRELIMINARY CALCULATIONS SHOW THAT UNLESS THE RADIATION IS CHECKED--NONE OF US HAVE MORE THAN A FEW DAYS TO LIVE!

HOWEVER, MY BRANCH LABORATORY IN FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA, HAS REPORTED THAT THERE IS VERY LIGHT RADIATION THERE--WHICH DISAPPEARS ENTIRELY IN THE VICINITY OF **METEOR CRATER!**

WHY SHOULD THAT BE?

3

I'M HOPING IT'S A SIGN THAT THE METEORITE BURIED IN THE CRATER **ABSORBS** THE RADIATION! MY JOB NOW IS TO CHECK INTO THE METEORITE, LEARN WHY IT ABSORBS THE RADIATION--AND TAKE STEPS TO PUT IT TO USE TO SAVE THE EARTH!

THE QUESTION IS--SHOULD I DO MY INVESTIGATING AS **JAY GARRICK**, WHOM THE PRESIDENT PUT IN OFFICIAL CHARGE OF THE RADIATION PERIL--OR AS **THE FLASH**, SINCE I CAN WORK FASTER THAT WAY!

POOR DARLING! EVER SINCE BARRY ALLEN VISITED YOU * AND YOU DECIDED TO COME OUT OF RETIREMENT, THERE'S BEEN NO CALL FOR YOUR SERVICES AS **THE FLASH!**

I KNOW! I'M LIKE AN OLD FIRE HORSE WAITING FOR THE SOUND OF THE ALARM! THOSE WERE THE DAYS, JOAN! YOU WERE JOAN WILLIAMS THEN, NOT MRS. GARRICK...

*EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE **THE FLASH** #123: "FLASH OF TWO WORLDS!"

AS HE STARES WISTFULLY AT HIS UNIFORM, THE YEARS SEEM TO ROLL AWAY FOR THE FORMER **SCARLET SPEEDSTER**...

THE LAST TIME I WORE THAT BEFORE BARRY ALLEN VISITED US WAS ON THE **JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA*** CASE, "THE MYSTERY OF THE VANISHING DETECTIVES!" HOW WELL I REMEMBER THE LAST **JSA** ADVENTURE!

*EDITOR'S NOTE: ON JAY'S EARTH, THE **JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA** WAS A GROUP OF SUPER-HEROES WHO BANDED TOGETHER TO FIGHT CRIME AND INJUSTICE. ITS COUNTERPART ON OUR EARTH IS THE **JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA**.

"I CAN STILL SEE **WONDER WOMAN** LIFTING THAT SUBMARINE HIGH OUT OF THE WAVES--SHAKING OUT ITS VILLAINOUS CREW..."

4

"AND THE ATOM--AS HE BOWLED OVER HALF A DOZEN MEMBERS OF THE TURTLE-NECK GANG..."

"MY, YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE WINGED WONDER, HAWKMAN--TWISTING WATER PIPES APART AND DELUGING THOSE CROOKS WITH TONS OF WATER..."

"AND GOOD OLD GREEN LANTERN--AS HE ENCASED HIS BODY IN EMERALD ARMOR SO BULLETS COULDN'T HARM HIM..."

BAM! BAM! BAM!

"THEN THERE WAS DR. MID-NITE--UNDER COVER OF HIS BLACKOUT BOMB--WADING INTO A GANG OF CROOKS..."

"HOW ABOUT THE LOVELY BLACK CANARY? SHE WAS THERE, TOO..!"

"WE WERE FIGHTING **THE KEY,** AS TOUGH AN OPPONENT AS WE EVER MET..."

SHAKING OFF HIS MEMORIES, JAY GARRICK COMPROMISES BY PUTTING ON HIS **FLASH** COSTUME AND COVERING IT WITH HIS REGULAR CLOTHES...

I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'LL BE BACK, HON! MAYBE NOT UNTIL THE RADIATION PERIL IS CONQUERED-- IF IT EVER IS!

I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOU, DEAR! YOU'VE NEVER FAILED ON A CASE YET...

IN HIS **KEYSTONE CITY** LABORATORY, AN HOUR LATER...

PLEASE WATCH, MR. GARRICK! THIS METAL CHUNK IS FROM THE CRATER METEORITE! WITH THIS LAMP WE'VE DUPLICATED THE DEADLY RADIATION...

AS THE EPSILON RADIATION STABS OUT--THE METEORITE GLOWS AND PULSES-- ABSORBING THE RADIATION AS A SPONGE DOES WATER...

THE GEIGER COUNTER DIDN'T EVEN CLICK! THAT MEANS WITH ENOUGH OF THIS METEORITE METAL--WE CAN MAKE THE WORLD SAFE! I'LL BE ON MY WAY TO ARIZONA, NOW!

IN ARIZONIA, AT THE EDGE OF **METEOR CRATER**, HE MEETS OUTSTANDING SCIENTISTS AND HIGH-RANKING MILITARY OFFICALS WHO GIVE HIM A MESSAGE OF DOOM...

YOU DID EXCELLENT WORK, GARRICK--BUT IT WILL BE OF NO HELP...NO HELP AT ALL!

YOU SEE--THE METEORITE OF THE CRATER HAS MYSTERIOUSLY **VANISHED!**

DISMAY SEIZES THE AUTHORITIES GROUPED ABOUT THE EMPTY CRATER...

WITHOUT THE METEORITE, WE'RE DONE FOR! AND THERE ISN'T ANOTHER SUCH TYPE OF METEORITE IN THE REST OF THE WORLD!

WHAT'LL WE DO? WHERE COULD IT HAVE GONE?

DEEP IN THOUGHT, JAY GARRICK SUDDENLY CRIES OUT HOPEFULLY...

WAIT, GENTLEMEN! THERE IS **ANOTHER** EARTH--EXISTING ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH OUR OWN--PRACTICALLY A DUPLICATE OF OURS! OUR EARTH HAS A **METEOR CRATER**--SO MIGHT THAT OTHER EARTH!

RECENTLY I LEARNED BOTH EARTHS WERE CREATED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN SIMILAR UNIVERSES! THEY VIBRATE DIFFERENTLY--WHICH KEEPS THEM APART! LIFE--CUSTOMS--EVEN LANGUAGES EVOLVED ABOUT THE SAME ON BOTH EARTHS!

IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE--AND YOU CAN CONTACT THAT OTHER WORLD, DO SO!

IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE TO STAY ALIVE, GARRICK! GET TO WORK ON IT!

OUT OF SIGHT OF THE OTHERS, JAY THROWS OFF HIS CIVILIAN GARB AND AS **THE FLASH**, RACES CROSS-COUNTRY TO A CERTAIN SPOT OUTSIDE **KEYSTONE CITY**...

LUCKY THING I PUT MY **FLASH** OUTFIT ON! TIME IS MIGHTY IMPORTANT, NOW! I HAVE ABOUT THREE DAYS TO GET THAT METEOR, FOR AFTER THAT, THE EPSILON RADIATION WILL HAVE BUILT UP TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT NOTHING WILL SAVE US!

VIBRATING AS HE HAD SEEN BARRY (**FLASH**) ALLEN DO, HE CARVES A PATHWAY BETWEEN WORLDS...

I HOPE THERE'S A **METEOR CRATER** IN BARRY ALLEN'S WORLD--WAITING FOR ME...

DOUBLE DANGER ON EARTH!

Chapter 2

NOW LET US LOOK IN ON OUR OWN EARTH, WHERE THERE IS NO DANGER AT ALL -- EXCEPT PERHAPS TO BARRY (**FLASH**) ALLEN FROM IRIS WEST'S TEMPER -- FOR AS USUAL, HE IS LATE FOR A DATE WITH HIS GIRL FRIEND! TO SAVE TIME, HE TOUCHES THE SECRET SPRING ON HIS RING WHICH EJECTS HIS SCARLET COSTUME...

OH, BROTHER! IT'S EIGHT O'CLOCK--AND I'M DUE RIGHT NOW AT IRIS'S APARTMENT! GOT TO HURRY, SO I'LL CHANGE INTO MY **FLASH** OUTFIT HERE...

AT SUPER-SPEED HE RIPS ACROSS TOWN TOWARD IRIS WEST'S APARTMENT, AND SOON ...

AT LAST-- THERE'S BARRY NOW! I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH HIM! HE'S ALWAYS LATE!

BRIINNGGG!

BARRY ALLEN, I DECLARE! IF YOU WERE ANY SLOWER-- YOU'D STOP MOVING!

:PUFF!: -:PUFF!: I HURRIED, FAST AS I COULD...

GOT TO REMEMBER TO USE **BARRY'S** VOICE-- NOT **FLASH'S** VOICE!

HOLD ON, NOW!

IRIS WEST DOESN'T KNOW BARRY IS **THE FLASH**--SO HOW COULD SHE ADDRESS **THE FLASH** AS-- **BARRY ALLEN**? IS IT POSSIBLE SHE HAS DISCOVERED HIS SECRET IDENTITY?

YOU KNOW, BARRY-- IN YOUR **COSTUME** FOR THE **HEADLINE MAKERS BALL**, YOU LOOK ALMOST LIKE **THE FLASH**! TOO BAD YOU AREN'T AS **FAST** AS HE IS!

THAT'S A PRETTY KEEN OUTFIT YOU HAVE YOURSELF, IRIS!

8

BY TAXI, THEY TRAVEL TO THE **HOTEL CENTRAL** WHERE SOCIETY IS GATHERING TO DONATE CASH FOR CHARITY AT THE ANNUAL **PICTURE NEWS** COSTUME BALL...

100,000
75,000
50,000
25,000
NO DONATION TOO SMALL

BEFORE THE NIGHT IS OVER, WE HOPE TO HIT THE $100,000 MARK!

I RECOGNIZE THE TELLERS AS MEMBERS OF THE **CENTRAL CITY** POLICE FORCE! GOOD! I KNOW THE CHARITY MONEY WILL BE SAFE!

THEY PROCEED INTO THE GRAND BALLROOM WHERE...

PEOPLE MASQUERADING AS SUCH HEADLINE MAKERS AS THE **MIRROR MASTER! TRICKSTER! CAPTAIN COLD! THE TOP!** ;Whew!: IF I DIDN'T KNOW THOSE VILLAINS WERE REALLY IN JAIL, I'D BE SUSPICIOUS!

AS THE ORCHESTRA PLAYS AND MOST OF THE PEOPLE ARE DANCING, A GUEST MOVES OUT INTO THE LOBBY...

THE THERMOMETER'S REACHED $100,000! I BROKE OUT OF JAIL TODAY WITH ONE OF MY COLD TRICKS-- IN TIME TO MAKE MYSELF RICH!

100,000
50,000
NO

WHIPPING OUT HIS **COLD-GUN, CAPTAIN COLD** SENDS A PIERCING BEAM OF FROST THROUGH THE TELLERS' CAGES...

SUCH INTENSE COLD "QUICK-FREEZES" THEM SO THEY CAN'T MOVE!

NO DONATION TOO SMALL

AT THE SAME TIME, THE COLDNESS MAKES METAL AS BRITTLE AS GLASS! A SINGLE BLOW WITH MY HAND SMASHES THE METAL BARS OF THE CAGE!

CRASH!

9

AS THE **FROST MASTER** STRETCHES OUT HIS HANDS FOR THE CHARITY RECEIPTS...

HUH? SOMEONE'S GRABBING THE MONEY AHEAD OF ME!

THE TRICKSTER!

EXACTLY! I MADE MY ESCAPE FROM PRISON JUST THIS AFTERNOON TO GET THIS! YOU DON'T THINK I'D LET YOU BEAT ME TO IT, **CAPTAIN COLD?**

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT! MY **ABSOLUTE ZERO RAY** WILL PUT YOU OUT OF COMMISSION!

THE TRICK IS FOR YOU TO FIRE IT! AND YOU CAN'T DO THAT--

THE TRICKSTER FIRES A MAGNETIC PELLET FROM HIS BLOWGUN...

--WITH A PELLET BLOCKING THE BARREL! HA! HA!

SNATCHING UP THE $100,000, **THE TRICKSTER** IS ABOUT TO MAKE HIS GETAWAY WITH HIS JET SHOES, WHEN...

I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THIS OTHER EARTH OF BARRY ALLEN'S--BUT I SURE RECOGNIZE A ROBBERY WHEN I SEE ONE!

WHO IN THE WORLD IS **THAT?**

NEVER SAW ANY-ONE LIKE HIM BEFORE!

LOOK AT HIM GO-- AS FAST AS **THE FLASH!**

BARRY ALLEN'S LANDLADY TOLD ME HE WAS COMING TO THIS COSTUME BALL AND THAT I'D FIND HIM HERE! I DIDN'T EXPECT TO FIND CROOKS AS WELL!

10

RACING DIRECTLY BELOW **THE TRICKSTER**, JAY (**FLASH**) GARRICK SPEEDS AROUND AND ROUND...

HE'S CREATED A DOWN-DRAFT WHICH IS CATCHING ME--MAKING ME FALL!

DOWNWARD PLUNGES THE CRIMINAL, CAUGHT BY THE AIR WHIRL-POOL...

I CAN'T STOP MYSELF! I'M GOING TO CRASH!

I'LL TAKE THAT MONEY AND RETURN IT TO THE AUTHORITIES!

AH--FINALLY WRENCHED THE MAGNETIC PELLET FROM MY COLD-GUN!

OH, NO YOU WON'T, YOU IMITATION **FLASH!**

THE VERY AIR FREEZES UNDER **THE FLASH'S** CHURNING FEET, MAKING HIM SLIP AND SLIDE, LOSING HIS BALANCE...

IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D THINK YOU WERE **THE FLASH** HIMSELF! YOU'RE AS FAST AS HE IS--BUT THAT COSTUME IS FROM **SQUARESVILLE!**

MY FEET--SLIDING EVERY-WHICH-WAY!

HELPLESS BEFORE THE ICE WHICH CAUSES HIM TO CRASH HEAVILY, **THE FLASH** SEES **THE TRICKSTER** STIR AND BEGIN HIS MOVE...

THANKS, **CAPTAIN COLD!** I APPRECIATE YOUR SAVING ME FROM THIS **"OTHER FLASH"**! IF I WEREN'T DETERMINED TO KEEP ALL THIS MONEY, I'D SHARE IT WITH YOU!

MOCKING LAUGHTER TRAILS BEHIND THE RUNNING **TRICKSTER** AS HE RACES UPWARD ON HIS JET SHOES...

HEY, COME BACK HERE!

SORRY, I'VE GOT PLACES TO GO-- AND THINGS TO DO!

AS HE CIRCLES THE DANCE FLOOR WITH IRIS WEST, BARRY (**FLASH**) ALLEN FROWNS IN PUZZLEMENT...

THAT'S ODD! BY THIS TIME THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO ANNOUNCE WHETHER WE MADE THE $100,000 WE WERE AIMING FOR!

IT'S ALMOST MIDNIGHT, TOO!

I'LL HAVE A LOOK AROUND, IRIS! I'LL HURRY BACK--

--AT LEAST BEFORE THEY PLAY THE LAST NUMBER, BARRY! YOU KNOW HOW SLOW YOU ARE!

BUT ALL SLOWNESS DISAPPEARS AS **THE FLASH** HURTLES PAST THE FROZEN POLICE OFFICERS IN THE BROKEN TELLERS' CAGE...

THE POLICE TELLERS-- FROZEN SOLID! THE CHARITY MONEY--GONE! THIS HAS ALL THE EARMARKS OF A JOB BY **CAPTAIN COLD!** SOMEHOW, HE MUST HAVE BROKEN OUT OF JAIL!

A LITTLE FURTHER ON...

HUH? AM I SEEING THINGS? JAY GARR-- I MEAN, **THE FLASH!**

:Whew!: I JUST HAD A RUN-IN WITH A COUPLE OF CROOKS! THEY ESCAPED ME BUT THEY COULDN'T HAVE GONE VERY FAR! LET'S GO AFTER THEM!

THERE'S ONE OF THEM NOW!

THE TRICKSTER!

AHEAD OF THE SPEEDING **FASTEST MEN ALIVE, CAPTAIN COLD** LIFTS HIS **COLD-GUN** SKYWARD, CRYING OUT ANGRILY...

I WARNED YOU, **TRICKSTER!** YOU'VE HAD YOUR LAST CHANCE!

HA! HA! HA! YOU'RE HELPLESS TO STOP ME, **CAPTAIN COLD!**

AS THE **FROST MASTER** TRIGGERS HIS **COLD-GUN**, A WALL OF SOLID ICE LEAPS INTO EXISTENCE RIGHT BEFORE **THE TRICKSTER**...

CRAASSHH!

SLIDING GROUNDWARD ALONG A SLOPING ICE BRIDGE, THE DAZED **TRICKSTER** CANNOT PREVENT HIS FELLOW-THIEF FROM WRENCHING THE CHARITY MONEY FROM HIS NERVELESS HANDS...

SORRY, OLD BOY-- BUT TO THE VICTOR BELONGS THE SPOILS!

WARNED BY THE DRUMMING OF FEET, **CAPTAIN COLD** WHEELS ABOUT TO FACE . . .

TWO FLASHES! I DIDN'T EXPECT THIS!

SPLIT UP! IF **CAPTAIN COLD** GETS ONE OF US-- THE OTHER CAN GRAB HIM!

ONCE AGAIN THE FRIGID BEAM STABS OUTWARD, TURNING THE WATER VAPOR IN THE AIR ABOUT **BARRY FLASH** INTO A BLOCK OF SOLID ICE...

I'VE GOT YOU, **FLASH!**

AND **I'VE** GOT YOU, **CAPTAIN COLD!**

13

SUDDENLY...

I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET AWAY WITH THE LOOT WHILE THE OTHER **FLASH** WAS CAPTURING YOU, **CAPTAIN COLD**-- BUT THEN HE'D FREE **THE FLASH** WE KNOW AND BOTH OF THEM WOULD GET **ME**, SO...

WHILE ONE FLASH IS HELD HELPLESS IN A BLOCK OF SOLID ICE, THE OTHER **FLASH** IS YANKED UPWARD INTO THE AIR...

AN INSTANT LATER...

YOU KNOW, **CAPTAIN COLD**--WE MAKE A PRETTY GOOD TEAM!

NOT BAD, **TRICKSTER!** WE STOPPED BOTH **FLASHES**-- IF YOU'LL PARDON THE PUN--**COLD!**

YOU DESERVE HALF THIS MONEY! I'VE A FEELING THAT THE **TWO** OF US CAN MAKE MORE LOOT THAN EITHER **ONE** EVER COULD!

GOOD IDEA! WE'LL WORK TOGETHER FROM NOW ON-- JUST AS THOSE TWO **FLASHES** DID!

DOUBLE DANGER ON EARTH!

Chapter 3

HELD PRISONERS IN THE ICE BLOCKS CREATED BY **CAPTAIN COLD**, BOTH **FLASHES** REALIZE THEIR DEADLY DANGER! BUT--CAN THEY DO ANYTHING TO ESCAPE IT?

I'VE GOT TO FIND SOME WAY OUT--OR **CAPTAIN COLD** AND **THE TRICKSTER** WILL ROB AT WILL!

UNLESS I GET OUT OF HERE--EVERYONE ON MY WORLD WILL PERISH FROM THE EPSILON RADIOACTIVITY!

LET US TEMPORARILY TURN OUR ATTENTION FROM THE ICE-TRAPPED **FLASHES** TO THOSE MOMENTS JUST BEFORE **CAPTAIN COLD** CAPTURED THEM...

GOT TO TAKE--A DEEP BREATH!

MUST BREATHE IN DEEPLY--SO AS TO LEAVE A **GAP** BETWEEN MY BODY AND THE **ICE**!

THE SPACE BETWEEN THEIR BODIES AND THE ICE ENABLES THE SPEEDSTERS TO VIBRATE ... FASTER ... FASTER ...

SUDDENLY, THE SUPER-HEATED AIR GENERATED BY THE SUPER-SWIFT VIBRATIONS CAUSES THE ICE-BLOCKS TO SPLIT OPEN...

LOOKS AS IF WE HAD THE SAME IDEA--

--AT THE SAME TIME!

THEY SCOUR THE CITY AT WHIRLWIND SPEEDS, BUT FIND NO TRACE OF **THE TRICKSTER** AND **CAPTAIN COLD**...

WE'VE LOST THE TRAIL FOR NOW-- BUT THEY'LL SHOW UP AGAIN!

MEANWHILE, I HAVE A JOB TO DO HERE ON YOUR EARTH...

QUICKLY, **JAY-FLASH** RELATES THE TERRIBLE PROBLEM OF THE DEADLY EPSILON RADIATION THREATENING HIS WORLD...

SO I'VE GOT TO GET TO YOUR WORLD'S **METEOR CRATER** AT ONCE! IT'S THE ONLY HOPE OF SAVING MY WORLD!

I'D LIKE TO GIVE YOU A HAND BUT I BETTER STAY AROUND HERE AND WAIT FOR **CAPTAIN COLD** AND **THE TRICKSTER** TO STRIKE AGAIN! ANYHOW --GOOD LUCK! I'LL ALERT THE AUTHORITIES ABOUT YOUR MISSION HERE!

AS JAY (**FLASH**) GARRICK SPEEDS WESTWARD, BARRY (**FLASH**) ALLEN HURTLES EASTWARD, BUT ONLY A FEW BLOCKS...

Whew! GOOD THING I SLOWED DOWN BEFORE IRIS TURNED TO LOOK AT ME! OTHERWISE, SHE MIGHT HAVE REALIZED THAT I **REALLY** AM **THE FLASH**!

WELL, MR. SLOWPOKE, WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? I'M THE LAST PERSON LEFT AT THE BALL!

THERE WAS A ROBBERY, IRIS! AND AFTER ALL-- I **AM** A POLICEMAN, YOU KNOW!

A ROBBERY? TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT! AFTER ALL-- I **AM** A REPORTER, YOU KNOW!

BEFORE BARRY ALLEN CAN TAXI IRIS TO HER APARTMENT, JAY GARRICK IS ACROSS THE CONTINENT, AT **METEOR CRATER**...

I CAN'T DO THIS BY MYSELF! I NEED HELP-- SO I'LL ASK FOR IT AT THE CRATER MUSEUM!

16

AT THE CRATER MUSEUM, **FLASH** EXPLAINS HIS REPLACEMENT...

WE'LL HELP ALL WE CAN, NATURALLY! BUT--ONE MAN DIG UP THE METEORITE? IT'S AN IMPOSSIBLE TASK! SEVERAL ATTEMPTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE TO GET DOWN TO IT--AND FAILED!

IT IS BELIEVED THE METEOR LANDED ON EARTH ABOUT 50,000 YEARS AGO, DRIVING INTO THE GROUND AT AN ANGLE FOR 1500 FEET! FORCE OF IMPACT THREW ABOUT 400 MILLION TONS OF DIRT OUTSIDE THE CRATER! TODAY THAT CRATER IS 570 FEET DEEP AND OVER 4000 FEET ACROSS!

THE METEORITE IS ESTIMATED TO BE 120 FEET IN DIAMETER AND WEIGHING ANYWHERE FROM 1.7 MILLION TO 7.8 MILLION TONS! DO YOU STILL THINK YOU CAN GET IT UP--BY YOURSELF?

I HAVE TO--TO SAVE MY WORLD!

THEN BY RUNNING AROUND AND AROUND THE RIM OF THE CRATER--I CAN WHIRL THE DIRT IN A FAST-MOVING CIRCLE LIKE A TORNADO!

WORKING WITH ASTOUNDING SPEED, THE OTHER-WORLD FLASH WEARS OUT SHOVEL AFTER SHOVEL OF NICKEL-STEEL AS HE DIGS AND DIGS...

I CAN DIG OUT A LOT OF DIRT BEFORE THE FIRST SHOVELFUL FALLS BACK TO THE GROUND!

WITHIN MOMENTS A MIGHTY GUSHER OF DIRT, MUD AND WATER ERUPTS FROM THE IMPACT TUNNEL OF **METEOR CRATER**...

I'VE FORMED A SUCTION CUP WITH ROTATING WINDS-- WHICH DRAWS UP EVERYTHING BENEATH IT NOT FASTENED SECURELY...

AS THE DEBRIS SUBSIDES TO THE GROUND BEYOND THE CRATER RIM, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN RECORDED HISTORY, MEN'S EYES STARE DOWN AT THE FAMOUS METEORITE...

AMAZING! BUT NOW THAT YOU'VE UNCOVERED IT-- HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY TRANSPORT IT BACK TO YOUR WORLD?

NOT ALL IN ONE PIECE, THAT'S FOR SURE!

DESCENDING INTO THE CRATER, THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER** USES HIS STUPENDOUS SPEED TO "CUT" THE METEORITE INTO SECTIONS...

JUST AS A STRAW CAN PENETRATE A TREE WHEN BLOWN BY HURRICANE WINDS-- JUST AS I CAN VIBRATE THROUGH SOLID WALLS-- SO MY HANDS, BY MOVING AT SUPER-SPEED-- CAN SLICE THE METAL OF THE METEORITE!

SOON AN IMPOSING MOUNTAIN OF METEORIC INGOTS IS STACKED BY THE CRATER MUSEUM, AWAITING SHIPMENT...

I FIGURE ANOTHER HALF HOUR AND I'LL HAVE THE WHOLE METEORITE DISMANTLED AND READY TO GO!

IN THE MEANTIME, HIS FRIEND BARRY (**FLASH**) ALLEN HAS ARRANGED TO HAVE THESE METEORIC INGOTS BROUGHT TO **CENTRAL CITY** BY AIR TRANSPORT...

I'LL GIVE THEM AN HOUR'S START, THEN TAKE OFF MYSELF!

IN **CENTRAL CITY**, THE NEWSPAPERS HAVE SEIZED ON THE VISIT BY THE OTHER-EARTH **FLASH** WITH BANNER HEADLINES...

ISN'T THIS EXCITING, BARRY? ANOTHER **FLASH**! MY GOODNESS! AND TO THINK I HAVE THE EXCLUSIVE STORY ABOUT HIM!

JAY'S WORK IS ALMOST FINISHED HERE! WISH I COULD SAY THE SAME-- BUT I STILL HAVEN'T CAUGHT UP WITH **CAPTAIN COLD** AND **THE TRICKSTER** YET!

PICTURE NEWS

FLASH FROM OTHER EARTH HERE TO SAVE HIS OWN!

STORY BY IRIS WEST

FLASH

18

WHEN THE TWO **FLASHES** NEXT MEET, THE INGOTS ARE READY FOR SHIPMENT INTO JAY GARRICK'S WORLD...

HI, **FLASH!** I'M BUILDING THIS VIBRATOR-TRANSPORTER TO CARRY THESE INGOTS FROM YOUR WORLD TO MINE!

I'LL GIVE YOU A HAND WITH THEM!

THIS ASSEMBLY LINE BELT WILL FEED INGOTS INTO THE VIBRATOR, WHICH WILL SHIFT THEM TO MY WORLD! BY THE WAY-- WHAT ABOUT **CAPTAIN COLD** AND **THE TRICKSTER?**

THEY'RE STILL AT LARGE -- BUT THESE METEORITE INGOTS MIGHT HELP US TRAP THEM! LISTEN..

NEXT DAY, **PICTURE NEWS** IS FILLED WITH THE STORY OF A "BIG FIND"...

I WANT TO THANK YOU BOTH FOR THIS SCOOP!

WE WANT TO THANK YOU TOO, IRIS-- BUT WE CAN'T WITHOUT GIVING AWAY OUR PLAN TO CATCH **CAPTAIN COLD** AND **THE TRICKSTER!**

ARIZONIA METEORITE CONTAINS DIAMOND FORTUNE!

OTHER WORLD FLASH RETURNS BILLION DOLLARS IN JEWELS!

"HAS NO USE FOR THEM," HE SAYS!

NEXT DAY, AS THE VIBRATOR-TRANSPORTER BEGINS TO FUNCTION, **CAPTAIN COLD** AND **THE TRICKSTER** ARRIVE IN ANSWER TO THOSE HEADLINES...

WITH THIS NEW FAN ATTACHMENT ON MY COLD-GUN, I CAN BLANKET THE CITY WITH AN IMPULSE OF ABSOLUTE COLD EVEN FASTER THAN I COULD BEFORE!

PRETTY COOL TRICK, **CAPTAIN COLD!**

MOMENTS LATER...

YOU FROZE BOTH **FLASHES** STIFF, TOO! NOW I CAN SCOOP UP THOSE DIAMONDS THEY REMOVED FROM THE METEORITE WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THEM!

YOU WERE RIGHT, **TRICKSTER!** WE **DO** MAKE AN UNBEATABLE CRIME TEAM!

19

NO SOONER DOES THE SKY-SCOOP LIFT UPWARD WITH ITS BURDEN, HOWEVER, THAN...

THEY FELL FOR OUR PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN ABOUT THOSE FAKE DIAMONDS!

NOW LET'S BRING **THE TRICKSTER** DOWN AS WE PLANNED!

THEIR SPEED IS CAUSING A SUCTION--DRAGGING ME DOWN!

WE PROTECTED OURSELVES BY USING THE SAME **NEGATIVE RADIATION*** **CAPTAIN COLD** USED TO PROTECT HIMSELF AND **THE TRICKSTER!**

ONCE AGAIN THE AMAZING GUN OF THE **COLDEST MAN ALIVE** COMES INTO ACTION AS IT BUILDS A FOREST OF GIANT ICICLES AROUND **THE FASTEST MEN ALIVE...**

THEY CAN'T RUN NOW, **TRICKSTER!** THESE ICICLES WILL HAMPER THEM LONG ENOUGH FOR YOU TO MAKE YOUR GETAWAY!

BUT--THE QUICK-THINKING **FLASHES** ARE NOT AT A LOSS! THEIR HANDS MOVE SUPER-SWIFTLY...

WITH ROOM TO OPERATE THEY SNATCH UP THE ICICLES AND SEND THEM HURTLING UPWARD LIKE FROZEN PROPELLERS...

THE TRICKSTER IS DUCKING INTO A CLOUD--BUT WHEN HE COMES OUT THE OTHER SIDE --

--HE'LL FIND MIGHTY ROUGH GOING!

***EDITOR'S NOTE:** AS EXPLAINED IN THE **CAPTAIN COLD** STORY, "THE BIG FREEZE," THAT APPEARED IN **THE FLASH #114.**

20

DOUBLE DANGER ON EARTH!

Chapter 4

UPWARD FROM THE ROTATING HANDS OF THE TWO **FLASHES** LEAP THE GIANT ICICLES--SPINNING SO SWIFTLY THE EYE CAN SCARCELY SEE THEM! THEIR SWIFT CIRCLING DISTURBS THE WIND CURRENTS--SETS UP MINIATURE HURRICANES WHICH HIT AND BATTER **THE TRICKSTER**, KNOCKING HIM OFF BALANCE!

DOWN COME THE DIAMONDS, SCOOP-SHOVEL AND **TRICKSTER**...

RACING TO MEET HIM IS JAY (**FLASH**) GARRICK, ARMS EXTENDED FOR THE CATCH...

AND THEN-- BEFORE THE STUNNED EYES OF THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER...

HUH? HE'S-- DISAPPEARING!

AT THAT MOMENT, HALF A MILE AWAY...

I FIGURED CAPTAIN COLD MIGHT CAUSE A MIRAGE WITH HIS COLD-GUN AS HE'S DONE BEFORE*-- BUT I COULDN'T BE SURE!

*EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE SHOWCASE #8: IN WHICH FLASH FIRST MET "THE COLDEST MAN ON EARTH"!

I LET JAY GO AFTER THE TRICKSTER--JUST IN CASE IT WASN'T A MIRAGE, WHILE I FOLLOWED CAPTAIN COLD! SINCE HE DID USE A MIRAGE AND HELPED THE TRICKSTER ESCAPE, CAPTAIN COLD WILL BE ON HIS WAY TO MEET HIM! I'LL FOLLOW!

AS I DO, I'LL LEAVE A TRAIL FOR JAY TO FOLLOW! WHEN HE SEES HE'S BEEN FOOLED BY THAT MIRAGE, HE'LL START LOOKING FOR ME-- AND I WANT HIM TO KNOW WHICH WAY I'M GOING!

AS HE RUNS, THE FLASH MOVES HIS FINGER AT SUPER-SPEED, SLICING OFF THIN SLIVERS OF THE METEORITE WHICH HE CARRIES...

THESE METAL SHAVINGS ARE JUST AS GOOD AS AN ARROW POINTING OUT THE WAY!

22

CAPTAIN COLD LEADS FLASH TO A CAVE HIGH IN THE NEARBY MOUNTAINS...

THERE'S **THE TRICKSTER,** TOO-- WHO PROBABLY HID IN THE CLOUD AS THE WINDS BLEW IT ALONG UNTIL HE THOUGHT IT SAFE TO EMERGE AND HEAD FOR THE CAVE!

INSIDE THE CAVE, THE THIEVES ARE DIVIDING THEIR LOOT AS ...

ANOTHER FOR YOU, ANOTHER FOR ME!

YOU KNOW-- THESE DIAMONDS LOOK A LITTLE ODD--

THAT'S BECAUSE THEY AREN'T **REAL** DIAMONDS-- BUT GLASS CHUNKS! THE OTHER-EARTH **FLASH** AND I DOCTORED THEM TO RESEMBLE REAL GEMS!

WE WERE **TRICKED!**

WE WALKED INTO YOUR TRAP, **FLASH**-- BUT IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD!

I HAVE A NEW ATTACHMENT FOR MY **COLD-GUN**-- JUST FOR YOU, **FLASH!**

I HAVE A TRICK GADGET THAT WILL AMUSE YOU, TOO!

SAVE YOUR TRICKS AND GADGETS, FELLOWS! YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO USE THEM ON ME! YOU SEE, ALL I HAVE TO DO TO STOP YOU BOTH IS-- **SNAP MY FINGERS!**

HAVE YOU LOST YOUR SENSES?

NO ONE-- BUT **NO ONE**--OUT-TRICKS **THE TRICKSTER!**

TRUE TO HIS WORD--FLASH SNAPS HIS FINGERS...

SNAP!

23

AS THOSE FINGERS SNAP-- **CAPTAIN COLD** WHIRLS TO FACE **THE TRICKSTER** WHO ALSO TURNS AROUND TO FACE HIM-- AND BOTH FIRE...

TRICKSTER--I SHOT YOU! HOW--?

AND I--SHOT YOU! HOW--?

THEN--SLOWING DOWN SO THAT HE BECOMES VISIBLE, THE **OTHERWORLD FLASH** REVEALS HIS PRESENCE...

IT WAS **I** WHO GRABBED YOUR "GUN-HANDS" AND SWUNG YOU AROUND-- AT THE SIGNAL OF **THE FLASH'S** SNAPPING FINGERS!

WITH MY SPEED-GEARED EYE-SIGHT I SAW THE OTHER **FLASH** RUN INTO THE CAVE SO FAST YOU COULDN'T SEE HIM! HE UNDERSTOOD MY SNAPPING FINGERS TO MEAN--PUT YOU BOTH OUT OF ACTION!

LATER, AFTER THE TWO CRIMINALS HAVE BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE POLICE--AND THE PEOPLE OF **CENTRAL CITY** REMOVED FROM THE COLD PALL THAT HELD THEM MOTIONLESS--THE TWO **FLASHES** FOLLOW THE METEORIC INGOTS INTO JAY GARRICK'S EARTH...

THE INGOTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN VIBRATED INTO MY WORLD, BARRY!

LET'S SEE HOW THEY'RE BEING USED!

AFTER BEING GROUND TO POWDER, THE METEORIC METAL IS PLACED IN SPECIAL SPRAY ATTACHMENTS FITTED TO ROCKET-SATELLITES AND SHOT INTO THE STRATOSPHERE...

I STILL CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR METEORITE, JAY!

I THINK I'VE SOLVED THAT MYSTERY!

WHEN THE EPSILON RADIATION HIT OUR EARTH, OUR METEORITE ABSORBED IT! WE THOUGHT IT ABSORBED ONLY THE RADIATION AROUND THE CRATER BUT IT MUST HAVE ABSORBED FAR MORE -- ENOUGH ACTUALLY TO SAVE ALL OUR LIVES! BUT ITS EFFECTIVENESS LASTED ONLY 24 HOURS...

24

JAY-FLASH CONCLUDES HIS EXPLANATION AS THE PLANET-SAVING METEORITE DUST IS SPRAYED FROM THE ORBITING SATELLITES FAR ABOVE THE SURFACE...

AT THE END OF THOSE 24 HOURS, THE METEORITE WAS CONSUMED BY THE RADIATION IT HAD ABSORBED AND SIMPLY DISAPPEARED--JUST AS THE METEORITE DUST NOW BEING SPRAYED WILL DISAPPEAR AFTER IT ABSORBS THE RADIATION!

24 HOURS FROM NOW BOTH THE RADIATION AND THE METEORIC DUST WILL BE GONE--AND OUR EARTH WILL BE SAFE!

HMMM, YOU KNOW, JAY--IF EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS ON YOUR WORLD EVENTUALLY HAPPENS ON MINE...

...THEN WHEN A SIMILAR COMET CRASHES INTO **OUR** SUN AND EPSILON RADIATION BATHES **OUR** EARTH--WITH BOTH METEORITES DESTROYED, THERE'LL BE NO WAY TO SAVE OURSELVES!

I'VE ALREADY TAKEN CARE OF THAT, BARRY!

SOMETIME LATER, BARRY ALLEN KNOWS THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR ALARM AS A STRAY COMET CRASHES INTO HIS OWN SUN...

IRIS, THANKS TO THE FORESIGHTEDNESS OF THE OTHER EARTH **FLASH** WHO HAD A CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF THE METEORITE METAL MADE--WE HAVE ENOUGH **SYNTHETIC** METEORIC METAL ON HAND TO SPRAY OUR ATMOSPHERE AT ONCE!

WE OWE A GREAT DEBT TO **BOTH FLASHES**, BARRY!

THE END

25

THE FLASH

SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

The FLASH

JUNE
NO.137

WHILE THE TWO *FLASHES* FIGHT IT OUT FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF CAPTURING ME, I'LL MAKE MY GETAWAY!

A new DOUBLE-FLASH thriller...

"VENGEANCE OF THE IMMORTAL VILLAIN!"

THE FLASH

THE MERE MENTION OF THE NAME **VANDAL SAVAGE** IS ENOUGH TO CAUSE EVERY HUMAN BEING ON EARTH TO SHUDDER! HE IS THE MOST POWERFUL AND DANGEROUS VILLAIN THAT EVER MENACED THE EARTH!

ORDINARILY, THERE WOULD BE NO CAUSE FOR ALARM--FOR **VANDAL SAVAGE** IS AN INHABITANT OF **ANOTHER EARTH**, EXISTING IN A DIFFERENT VIBRATORY UNIVERSE THAN OURS! BUT WHEN **VANDAL SAVAGE** MAKES HIS LATEST ATTACK ON THE OTHER EARTH, WE FEEL ITS IMPACT ON OUR EARTH!

FOLLOW BARRY (**FLASH**) ALLEN AS HE JOINS FORCES WITH **THE FLASH** COUNTERPART ON THIS DUPLICATE EARTH TO THWART THE...

VENGEANCE OF THE IMMORTAL VILLAIN!

FEATURING A THRILLING GUEST APPEARANCE BY THE **JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA!**

THIS WILL SETTLE MY SCORE WITH THE **JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA!** I'VE CAPTURED THEIR LAST MEMBER--WITH A **SECOND FLASH** THROWN IN FOR GOOD MEASURE!

HIGH ABOVE THE CAPITOL DOME IN WASHINGTON, D.C.--AN ERUPTION OF GLITTERING LIGHTS IN THE NIGHT SKY...

THE MYSTERIOUS SKY-LIGHTS--JUST AS THEY APPEARED OVER FIVE OTHER CITIES THIS PAST WEEK!

AT THEIR APPEARANCE, EVERY ENGINE WITHIN A TEN-MILE RANGE INSTANTLY STOPS! ELECTRIC LIGHTS BLINK OUT--MOTOR CARS COME TO A DEAD STOP--EVEN FLASHLIGHTS DON'T WORK...

THE CITY'S COME TO A STANDSTILL!

WHAT'S CAUSING THESE QUEER PHENOMENA?

MOMENTS LATER IN THE PENTAGON...

SUPPOSE AN ENEMY ATTACKS? WE COULDN'T FIRE A GUN TO STOP HIM!

FOR ALL WE KNOW, THOSE LIGHTS **ARE** AN ENEMY ATTACKING US!

THE SIX-CITY BLACKOUT BECOMES A HOT ISSUE FROM COAST TO COAST...

WHO IS CAUSING THESE DISASTROUS SKY-LIGHTS? EVERY COUNTRY DISCLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY! UNLESS WE FIND OUT SOON, MORE CITIES WILL BE HIT--AND OUR COUNTRY WILL BECOME COMPLETELY PARALYZED!

ONE MAN ALONE ON EARTH IS IN A POSITION TO GUESS AT THE STRANGE, ALMOST INCREDIBLE ANSWER...

WASHINGTON BATHED BY THOSE LIGHTS! AND BEFORE THAT--GOTHAM CITY--CALVIN CITY--AND THESE THREE OTHERS! WHO'S NEXT, I WONDER?

ODD! EACH OF THOSE CITIES RINGS A BELL IN MY MEMORY, BUT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY! COME ON, IRIS--I'LL WALK YOU HOME!

ALL THE WAY HOME FROM IRIS WEST'S APARTMENT, BARRY (FLASH) ALLEN PONDERS THE FAINT MEMORY OF THE CITY NAMES...

CALVIN CITY... WASHINGTON... GOTHAM CITY... WHAT HAVE THEY IN COMMON...?

SMOKE

LOAN

DANCE

THEN AS HE PUTS HIS KEY IN HIS DOOR LOCK...

OF COURSE! I JUST REMEMBERED IT STRUCK ME--LIKE A "FLASH"!

TURNING TO A WALL CABINET IN HIS ROOM, HE BRINGS OUT A MAP OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE EARTH...

I'M THE ONLY PERSON IN MY WORLD WHO'S EVER SEEN THIS MAP OF EARTH!

THIS IS THE EARTH OF MY GOOD FRIEND JAY (FLASH) GARRICK, WHERE THERE'S A KEYSTONE CITY IN THE PLACE OF CENTRAL CITY WHERE I LIVE! Hmmm-- I WAS RIGHT! THE CITIES WHERE THE SKY-LIGHTS APPEARED--ARE CITIES ON THE OTHER EARTH WHERE THE MEMBERS OF THE FORMER JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA RESIDED!

HOW WELL I REMEMBER THOSE COLORFUL HEROES FROM MY BOYHOOD READING OF ALL-STAR COMICS! HAWKMAN! DOCTOR MID-NITE! THE ATOM FROM CALVIN COLLEGE AND CALVIN CITY! WONDER WOMAN WORKED IN WASHINGTON IN THOSE DAYS! GREEN LANTERN WAS IN GOTHAM CITY! AND GOOD OLD JOHNNY THUNDER...

SINCE EACH OF THE CITIES WHERE THE SKY-LIGHTS HAVE APPEARED CORRESPOND TO THE CITIES WHERE THOSE JUSTICE SOCIETY MEMBERS LIVED, THOSE LIGHTS MIGHT BE CONNECTED WITH THEM! IT'S A LONG CHANCE--BUT IT'S WORTH INVESTIGATING...!

3

AN INSTANT LATER, HE TOUCHES A SECRET SPRING IN HIS RING, EXPOSING HIS **FLASH** COSTUME TO INFLATING OXYGEN...

VROOOSH!

THEN HE IS SPEEDING THROUGH CENTRAL CITY ALONG A WIDE CITY THOROUGH—FARE...

ANY POSSIBLE HOPE OF STOPPING THOSE SKY-LIGHTS MAKES THIS TRIP TO THAT "OTHER" EARTH OF JAY GARRICK WELL WORTHWHILE! PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS IN HIS WORLD ALSO HAPPENS IN MINE!

AT A FOCAL POINT BETWEEN THESE WORLDS--THE **CENTRAL CITY COMMUNITY CENTER**--**FLASH** VIBRATES AS HE DID ONCE BEFORE*...

BY VIBRATING AT A CERTAIN SPEED I'M SURE TO CROSS OVER THE SPATIAL HELIX LINKING MY EARTH WITH THAT OF JAY GARRICK!

*EDITOR'S NOTE: **THE FLASH** #123: "FLASH OF TWO WORLDS!"

MOMENTS LATER HE IS RACING THROUGH KEYSTONE CITY...

SINCE I KNOW WHERE MY **FLASH** COUNTERPART ON THIS EARTH LIVES, I'LL MAKE HIS HOME MY FIRST STOP!

WITHIN SPLIT-SECONDS AT THE HOME OF JAY GARRICK, 5252 78 STREET, KEYSTONE CITY, U.S.A. ...

OHHH--BARRY ALLEN! COME IN, COME IN! JAY WILL BE SO GLAD TO SEE YOU--AS SOON AS HE RETURNS!

HE'S NOT HOME, JOAN?

HE'S OUT ON A CASE AT THE MOMENT BUT HE'LL BE BACK SHORTLY! PLEASE SIT DOWN--AND TELL ME WHAT BRINGS **THE FLASH** TO **THIS EARTH**...

BUT BEFORE BARRY— **FLASH** CAN EXPLAIN HIS MISSION, JAY— **FLASH** RETURNS HOME...

YOU BOYS ARE IN FOR A LONG GABFEST-- SO HERE ARE SOME SANDWICHES TO MUNCH ON!

JAY, IN MY WORLD THERE ARE MYSTERIOUS LIGHTS IN THE SKY THAT...

WHAT?! THOSE SAME LIGHTS ARE HERE IN MY WORLD! LISTEN...

AFTER EACH SUPER-HERO TELLS HIS STORY...

WHAT YOU TELL ME IS MOST INTERESTING, BARRY! I'VE JUST RETURNED FROM THOSE SIX CITIES YOU MENTIONED...

AND WHEN I CHECKED UP IN EACH OF THESE CITIES I FOUND OUT THAT MY OLD **JUSTICE SOCIETY** BUDDIES--HAVE DISAPPEARED!

THAT SEEMS TO BE THE CLINCHER, ALL RIGHT! THERE MUST BE A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE APPEARANCE OF THE SKY-LIGHTS AND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THOSE **JSA** MEMBERS!

IF WE'RE RIGHT-- THE NEXT APPEARANCE OF THE SKY-LIGHTS MAY VERY WELL BE OVER MY HOME TOWN-- **KEYSTONE CITY!**

POSSIBLY TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO IT--SO YOU'LL DISAPPEAR TOO!

AND THEN-- BEFORE THEIR STARING EYES...

THERE IT IS--EXACTLY AS THE LIGHTS APPEARED OVER THE OTHER SIX CITIES!

CORRESPONDING TO THE SKY-LIGHTS IN MY OWN WORLD. BUT WHOEVER OR WHATEVER IS CAUSING THEM IS IN FOR A SURPRISE!

5

THROUGH A CITY BLANKETED BY DARKNESS RACE THE TWO FASTEST MEN ALIVE ...

OUR UNKNOWN MENACE PLANS ON CAPTURING THE FLASH--

---BUT HE CAN'T ANTICIPATE THAT THERE WILL BE TWO FLASHES ON HAND TO FIGHT HIM!

THEIR KEEN EYES SEARCH EVERY-WHERE FOR THE DEVICE CAUSING THE STRANGE SKY-LIGHTS...

SINCE EACH SKY-LIGHT APPEARED OVER DIFFERENT CITIES, THERE MUST BE SOME KIND OF GADGET AROUND HERE CREATING IT!

IT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG TO FIND IT AT THE RATE WE'RE TRAVELING!

THEN--ON A SIDE ROAD SOME MILES OUTSIDE THE CITY...

THERE IT IS! I'LL SHUT IT OFF-- RESTORING EVERYTHING BACK TO NORMAL IN KEYSTONE CITY!

BUT--AS THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER REACHES FOR THE STRANGE ENGINE, ANOTHER MACHINE NEARBY SUDDENLY SHOOTS OUT A BEAM OF LIGHT...

OHHH! A CUBE OF SOME SORT FORMING ABOUT ME--HOLDING ME RIGID!

AFTER THE CUBE FORMS SOLIDLY ABOUT HIM, IT LIFTS UPWARD INTO THE AIR, CARRY-ING THE HELPLESS JAY-FLASH INSIDE IT...

NO CHANCE OF BARRY RESCUING ME-- HE CAN'T FLY THROUGH THE AIR! IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE LOST OUR FIGHT WITH THE SKY-LIGHT MENACE!

6

MOMENTARILY STUNNED BY SURPRISE AT WHAT HAS HAPPENED, THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER LEAPS FORWARD-- ONLY TO HAVE HIS FINGERTIPS GRAZE THE COLD SURFACE OF THE CURIOUS CUBE...

MISSED! IT'S MOVING JUST BEYOND MY REACH!

BARRY-FLASH RACES IN TIGHT CIRCLES BELOW THE FLYING CUBE, BUT...

BY CAUSING A SUCTION WHIRL-POOL--I MIGHT BE ABLE TO DRAW IT DOWN SO I CAN GRAB HOLD OF IT!

HIS DESPERATE ATTEMPT IS CROWNED WITH FAILURE...

THE DOWNDRAFT JUST WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH! WHATEVER FORCE HAS THE CUBE IN ITS POWER IS TOO POWERFUL TO BUDGE!

OVER KEYSTONE CITY MOVES THE ODD CUBE--AND RACING UP A BUILDING WALL TO INTERCEPT IT SPEEDS BARRY-FLASH...

WHATEVER HOPE I HAVE OF STOPPING THOSE SKY-LIGHTS IN MY WORLD-- WILL INVOLVE SAVING FLASH FIRST!

BUT AGAIN HIS STRAINING FINGERS TOUCH ONLY EMPTY AIR...

IT'S JUST A FOOT AWAY-- BUT IT MIGHT AS WELL BE A MILE!

DOWN ONE BUILDING AND UP ANOTHER-- ONLY TO FAIL AGAIN AND AGAIN ! THEN FLASH ROCKETS UP THE LAST TALL BUILDING IN THE CITY...

THIS IS MY LAST CHANCE ! THERE ARE NO MORE BUILDINGS AFTER THIS TO GO UP WITHIN REACHING DISTANCE OF THE CUBE !

TOO LATE ! IT'S MOVING BEYOND THE ROOF-EDGE--

WITH A WILD DESPAIRING BROAD JUMP, HE FLINGS HIMSELF OUT INTO EMPTY AIR...

GOT TO RISK EVERYTHING ON THIS FINAL TRY !

HIS FEET TOUCH THE SOLID SURFACE OF THE CUBE -- BUT...

I REACHED IT-- BUT CAN'T KEEP MY FOOTING !

QUICKLY, HE BEGINS TO ROTATE HIS ARMS LIKE PROPELLERS--AND THEIR FRANTIC POUNDING OF THE AIR LIFTS HIM SLOWLY UPRIGHT...

GAINING MY BALANCE--!

DROPPING TO HIS KNEES, HE DRIVES THE EDGE OF HIS HANDS AT THE CUBE SO HARD AND SO SWIFTLY THAT IT BLURS...

AT SUCH SPEEDS MY HAND EQUALS THE BATTERING POWER OF A DOZEN PILE-DRIVERS!

FASTER--EVER FASTER--MOVES THE HAND--UNTIL FAINT CRACKS APPEAR IN THE WHITE CUBE...

AH--THE CUBE'S STARTING TO COME APART!

A MOMENT LATER THE WHITE PRISON GRIPPING JAY-**FLASH** OPENS AND..

I OVERLOOKED--THAT ONCE I DESTROYED THE CUBE--**FLASH** AND I WOULD FALL EARTHWARD!

FAR BELOW HE SIGHTS THE JAGGED ROCKS OF A SCENIC WONDERLAND...

IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING FAST--IT'LL BE ALL OVER FOR BOTH OF US!

STORY CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE!

The FLASH

VENGEANCE OF THE IMMORTAL VILLAIN-- PART 2

HURTLING TO THEIR DOOM ON THE SHARP ROCKS FAR BELOW, BARRY-FLASH SUDDENLY REMEMBERS AN EPISODE FROM HIS PAST--AND REACHES OUT TO CATCH HOLD OF THE UNCONSCIOUS JAY-FLASH! INSTANTLY HIS RIGHT ARM BEGINS TO VIBRATE--FASTER AND FASTER--CREATING AN UPDRAFT OF AIR WHICH LOWERS THEM GENTLY TOWARD THE GROUND...

LUCKILY I REMEMBERED A TECHNIQUE I USED ONCE BEFORE IN A SIMILAR SITUATION--WHEN I FACED THE VILLAINOUS BLACK CAT OF PARIS!*

CUSHIONED BY THAT RISING COLUMN OF AIR, THE TWO FLASHES DROP GENTLY DOWNWARD..

ANOTHER FEW FEET AND WE'LL BE SAFE ON SOLID GROUND!

*Editor's Note: SEE SHOWCASE #13: "AROUND the WORLD IN 80 MINUTES!"

PROTECTED BY THE ROTATING RIGHT ARM OF BARRY-FLASH, THE DUO SOON TOUCHES TERRA FIRMA...

;Whew; I'M STILL WOOZY FROM BEING IN THAT CUBE!

TAKE A BREATHER, JAY--AND THEN WE'LL GO BACK TO THE SKY-LIGHTS MACHINE AND MAKE ANOTHER TRY AT TURNING IT OFF!

MEANWHILE, MANY MILES TO THE SOUTH, IN A SCIENTIFICALLY EQUIPPED HIDE-OUT UNDER MAMMOTH CAVES...

WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO THE FINAL CUBE--AND THE FLASH INSIDE IT?

SO FAR EVERYTHING'S GONE JUST RIGHT! IT WAS EASY TO CAPTURE THE FIRST SIX JUSTICE SOCIETY MEMBERS. I KNEW THE TERRIBLE MENACE OF THE SKY-LIGHTS I CREATED WOULD BRING THEM OUT OF RETIREMENT!

AS THEY WERE ABOUT TO TOUCH THE MACHINES, THEY UNWITTINGLY TRIPPED AN ELECTRIC EYE BEAM THAT ENCASED THEM IN A CUBE INVENTED BY ONE OF MY OLD **INJUSTICE SOCIETY*** PALS, **BRAIN WAVE!** NO ONE COULD HAVE ESCAPED FROM **INSIDE IT!**

* EDITOR'S NOTE: THE INJUSTICE SOCIETY OF THE WORLD--AN ORGANIZATION OF THE GREATEST CRIMINALS OF EARTH--APPEARED IN ALL-STAR COMICS #37, OCT-NOV 1947.

SIXTEEN YEARS AGO YOU JUSTICE SOCIETY MEMBERS CAPTURED THE INJUSTICE SOCIETY AND PUT US AWAY IN PRISON! BUT WHAT ARE SIXTEEN YEARS TO A MAN LIKE ME--WHO IS IMMORTAL! NOW--SIXTEEN YEARS LATER--I HAVE ESCAPED JAIL AND HAVE BEGUN TO AVENGE MY DEFEAT AT YOUR HANDS!

GREEN LANTERN AND HIS POWER RING WERE HELPLESS ONCE THE CUBE CLOSED IN ON HIM! JOHNNY THUNDER COULDN'T SPEAK THE WORDS CEI-U WHICH WOULD ACTIVATE HIS FANTASTIC THUNDERBOLT! ATOM'S "ATOMIC PUNCH" WAS OF NO AVAIL AGAINST MY CUBE-PRISON!

DOCTOR MID-NITE COULDN'T REACH HIS BLACKOUT BOMB IN TIME TO HELP HIM! HAWKMAN'S ANTI-GRAVITY "NINTH METAL" FAILED! AND THE AMAZON POWERS OF WONDER WOMAN ARE ENCASED FOREVER IN THE CUBE FROM WHICH THERE IS NO ESCAPE!

OR IS THERE A WAY OF ESCAPE-- UNKNOWN TO ME? MY INSTRUMENTS SHOW THE CUBE THAT HELD THE FLASH HAS BEEN DESTROYED! IF FLASH COULD DO IT-- PERHAPS HIS FELLOW MEMBERS CAN, TOO!

IN A SENSE I MADE THEM ALL IMMORTAL WHEN I PLACED THEM IN THE CUBES! THEY WILL WITNESS MY TAKING OVER THE WORLD, SEE MY WICKED TRIUMPHS-- BUT COMPLETELY HELPLESS TO STOP ME! TO HONOR THE OCCASION, I EVEN DESIGNED THIS NEW UNIFORM I AM WEARING!

WHO IS THIS MAN WHO WIELDS SUCH AWESOME POWERS? TO UNDERSTAND, WE MUST GO BACK IN TIME 50,000 YEARS TO THE AGE OF THE CAVEMEN, WHERE VANDAR ADG WAS CHIEF OF A BAND OF CRO-MAGNONS...

A MIGHTY HUNTER, A GREAT FIGHTER, THIS CHIEF WAS LEADING HIS WARRIORS TO THE ATTACK ONE DAY WHEN OUT OF THE SKIES CAME A SCREAMING FIREBALL...

WITH A TITANIC EXPLOSION, THE FLAMING METEOR BURST OVER VANDAR ADG'S HEAD...

UNCONSCIOUS, HE WAS CARRIED TO HIS CAVE. WHEN HE WOKE--HE HAD BECOME *IMMORTAL!*

HE LIVED ON WHILE THE *CRO-MAGNONS* DIED OUT--

LIVED TO WALK THE STREETS OF ANCIENT *SUMER* AS ITS KING...

LATER, HE WAS KNOWN AS THE EGYPTIAN PHARAOH *CHEOPS*, BUILDER OF THE PYRAMIDS...

THEN *GENGHIS KHAN*...

13

LATER, HE BECAME A POWER BEHIND HISTORY'S SCENES-- HE WAS THE ADVISOR TO **NAPOLEON** ...

YOU MUST ATTACK, SIRE! THE AUSTRIANS, THE PRUSSIANS AND THE ENGLISH CANNOT WITHSTAND YOUR POWER!

VERY WELL, MARSHAL SAUVAGE! I WILL GIVE THE NECESSARY ORDERS!

TO BISMARCK...

THIS IS A GREAT TRIUMPH FOR YOUR ARMIES, PRINCE BISMARCK!

JA! A GREATER ONE FOR YOUR DIPLOMACY, BARON VON SAVAGE!

UNTIL TODAY--HAVING TURNED HIS GREAT TALENTS TO A QUEST FOR EARTH DOMINATION--VANDAL SAVAGE HAS BEGUN HIS PROGRAM BY CAPTURING SIX OF THE JUSTICE SOCIETY MEMBERS WHO HAD IMPRISONED HIM...

ONLY THE FLASH IS STILL AT LARGE TO GIVE ME TROUBLE! SINCE I FAILED TO CAPTURE HIM BY REMOTE-CONTROL, I SHALL GO OUT AND DO SO PERSONALLY!

SOON HE IS HURTLING IN HIS FLYING LABORATORY TOWARD THE SKY-LIGHTS MACHINE OUTSIDE KEYSTONE CITY...

IF I KNOW FLASH, HE WON'T GIVE UP-- BUT WILL ATTEMPT TO SHUT OFF THE SKY-LIGHTS ENGINE AGAIN!

AS HE APPROACHES THE HIDDEN MACHINE, HE SEES...

I MUSTN'T GET TOO CLOSE TO IT--OR I'LL BE CAUGHT IN ANOTHER CUBE!

THERE HE IS--RIGHT IN MY LINE OF FIRE!

INSTANTLY A BEAM OF BRIGHT LIGHT BATHES ONE OF THE SCARLET SPEEDSTERS...

MY FEET--SINKING INTO THE GROUND! WHO--OOOOH! DESPITE HIS NEW UNIFORM-- I RECOGNIZE HIM! IT'S VANDAL SAVAGE--THE IMMORTAL VILLAIN!

A GLOATING VANDAL SAVAGE WATCHES AS HIS NEMESIS SINKS DOWN INTO THE GROUND...

THIS HEAVY-RAY BEAM-- AN INVENTION OF ANOTHER FELLOW INJUSTICE SOCIETY MEMBER, THE THINKER-- HAS MADE FLASH SO HEAVY HE'LL SINK RIGHT THROUGH THE EARTH TO THE CORE OF THE PLANET!

THEN HIS ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO A SECOND FLASH...

CHIN UP, FLASH! I'LL HAVE YOU OUT OF THERE IN A MOMENT...

WHAT'S THIS? ANOTHER FLASH?! THINGS HAVE CHANGED IN THE YEARS I'VE BEEN IN PRISON!

THE BARREL OF THE HEAVY-RAY BEAMER SWINGS AROUND TOWARD BARRY-FLASH, DELUGING HIM WITH ITS GLOW...

HUH? I'M RISING INTO THE AIR-- LIKE A BALLOON!

BY REVERSING THE CONTROLS OF THIS RAY-MACHINE I CAN ALSO MAKE WHOEVER IT HITS--LIGHTER THAN AIR!

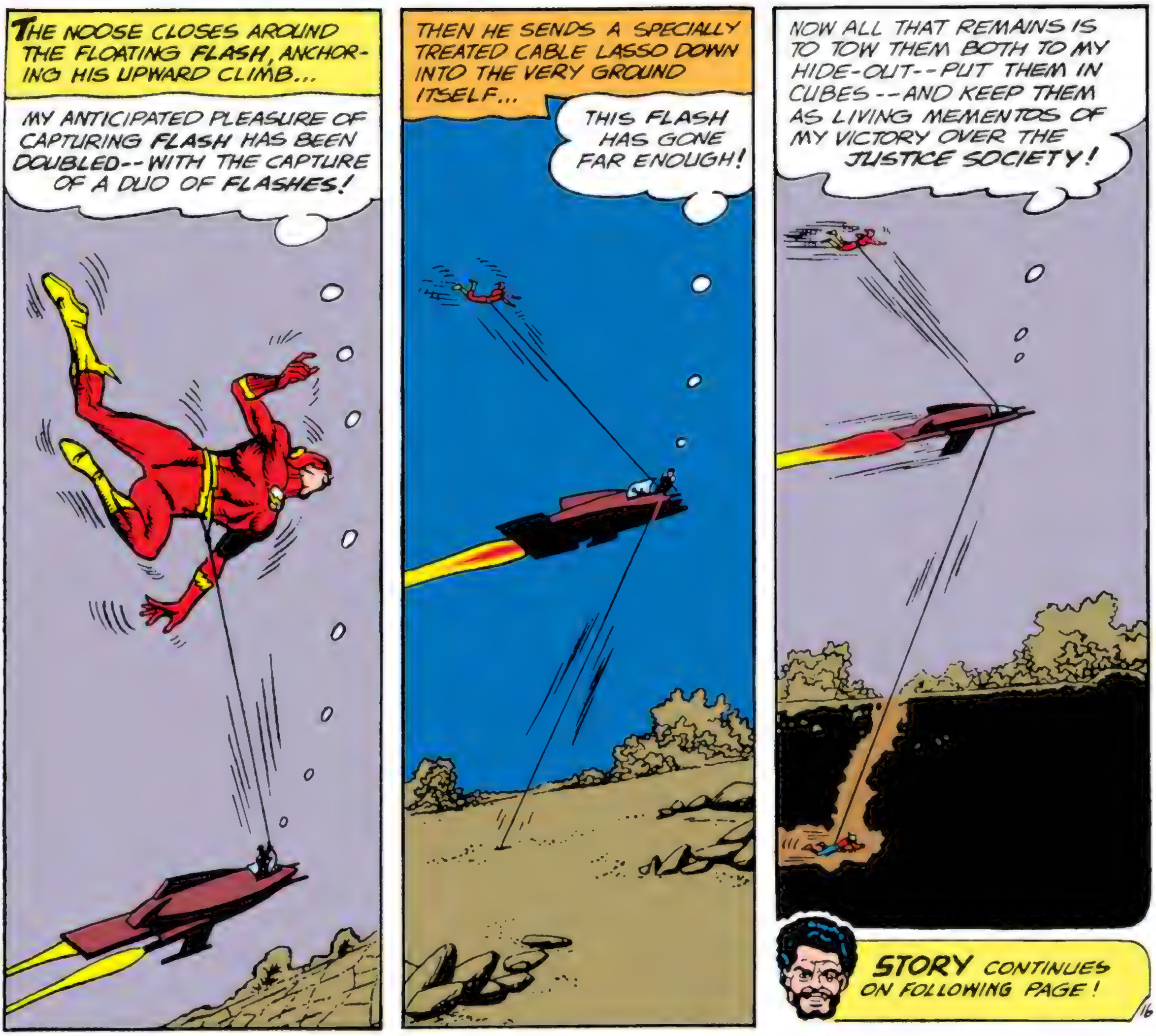
UNLESS SOMETHING STOPS HIM, HE'LL DRIFT INTO OUTER SPACE!

THEN VANDAL SAVAGE WITH A TOSS OF HIS MIGHTY ARM SENDS A CABLE-LASSO RISING TOWARD THE HELPLESS SCARLET SPEEDSTER...

MY SUPER-SPEED IS USELESS! NO MATTER WHAT I DO--I CAN'T MAKE MYSELF HEAVIER!

I'LL SAVE YOU, FLASH-- BECAUSE I HAVE A DIFFERENT DOOM PREPARED FOR YOU!

15


THE NOOSE CLOSES AROUND THE FLOATING FLASH, ANCHORING HIS UPWARD CLIMB...
MY ANTICIPATED PLEASURE OF CAPTURING FLASH HAS BEEN DOUBLED--WITH THE CAPTURE OF A DUO OF FLASHES!
THEN HE SENDS A SPECIALLY TREATED CABLE LASSO DOWN INTO THE VERY GROUND ITSELF...
THIS FLASH HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH!
NOW ALL THAT REMAINS IS TO TOW THEM BOTH TO MY HIDE-OUT--PUT THEM IN CUBES--AND KEEP THEM AS LIVING MEMENTOS OF MY VICTORY OVER THE JUSTICE SOCIETY!
STORY CONTINUES ON FOLLOWING PAGE!
16

The FLASH

VENGEANCE OF THE IMMORTAL VILLAIN--PART 3

HIGH IN THE AIR, ONE **FLASH** IS TOWED LIKE A BALLOON! BENEATH THE GROUND, THE OTHER **FLASH** IS DRAGGED LIKE A FISH BELOW WATER! THEIR VAUNTED SUPER-SPEED SEEMS USELESS TO HELP THEM AVOID THE SINISTER PLANS OF **VANDAL SAVAGE!**

I OVERCAME NOT ONLY ONE BUT **TWO FLASHES!** THE EXTRA ONE IS LIKE A BONUS FOR MY WICKEDNESS! HA! HA! HA!

FLOATING HELPLESSLY AT THE END OF HIS CABLE LASSO, BARRY-**FLASH** THINKS FURIOUSLY...

I'M BEING CARRIED ALONG LIKE A BALLOON--OR A HOOKED FISH! BUT EVEN A FISH WOULD STRUGGLE TO ESCAPE! SO WILL I!

GRASPING THE CABLE LASSO, HE BEGINS TO VIBRATE IT WITH TERRIFIC SWIFTNESS...

THIS OUGHT TO SHAKE THAT VILLAIN UP A BIT!

FAR BELOW HIM, JAY-FLASH HAS THOUGHT OF THE SAME TRICKY MANEUVER AND...

BY SHAKING THE LASSO AT SUPER-SWIFT SPEED-- I OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO MAKE THE PLANE VIBRATE UNCONTROLLABLY!

WITHIN MOMENTS THE DOUBLE-POWERED VIBRATIONS OF THE LASSOS SET UP A COMPENSATORY VIBRATION WITHIN THE PLANE ITSELF...

MY PLANE'S GOING OUT OF CONTROL! EVERYTHING'S SHAKING SO MUCH--I CAN'T HOLD IT ON COURSE!

ITS STEERING MECHANISM WRECKED BY THE INCESSANT VIBRATIONS, THE LAB PLANE PLUNGES GROUNDWARD...

THROWN CLEAR OF THE WRECKAGE, VANDAL SAVAGE SEES THE TWO FLASHES DRAG THEMSELVES TOWARD HIS FLYING LABORATORY...

THEY CAN TURN MY OWN WEAPONS AGAINST ME! I'M NOT PREPARED TO FIGHT **TWO FLASHES** ARMED WITH MY WEAPONS! I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!

18

EDGING HIS WAY ALONG THE LASSO, BARRY-FLASH GRASPS THE HEAVY-RAY MACHINE AND REVERSING ITS CONTROLS, BLASTS HIS COUNTERPART WITH THE LIGHTNESS BEAM...

A LITTLE LESS LIGHTNESS, BARRY! I'M STARTING TO FLOAT, NOW!

THANKS, PAL! I'M BACK TO NORMAL! NOW LET ME RETURN THE COM-PLIMENT!

OKAY! I WAS NEVER CUT OUT TO BE A BALLOON!

AFTER BEING RESTORED TO PROPER WEIGHT, THE MONARCHS OF MOTION BEGIN THEIR HUNT FOR VANDAL SAVAGE...

NO TRACE OF HIM! WE COULD SPEND HOURS--DAYS--SEARCHING FOR HIS HIDE-OUT...

SECONDS, BARRY! NOW THAT I KNOW VANDAL SAVAGE IS BE-HIND THIS--I KNOW--FROM THE JUSTICE SOCIETY'S PREVIOUS EN-COUNTER WITH HIM--WHERE HE MAKES HIS HIDE-OUT!

OUTSIDE THE MAMMOTH CAVES IN KENTUCKY, AT THAT MOMENT...

I'VE BORROWED IDEAS FROM MY FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE INJUSTICE SOCIETY--BUT I ALSO INVENTED A FEW OF MY OWN! THIS UNIFORM, FOR INSTANCE, WHICH IS GIMMICKED TO FLY ME THROUGH THE AIR, ENABLED ME TO ESCAPE THE FLASHES!

I USED THE LAB PLANE TO MEET THEM INSTEAD OF FLYING UNDER MY OWN POWER BECAUSE I WANTED TO HAVE WEAPONS WITH WHICH TO OVERCOME THEM! NOW THAT FLASH KNOWS WHO IS BEHIND THE SKY-LIGHTS MENACE, HE'LL ALSO REMEMBER I HAVE A HIDE-OUT UNDER MAMMOTH CAVES!

INTO THE CAVES HE RUNS AND TO HIS HIDE-OUT, WHERE...

MY OTHER WEAPONS FAILED--BUT THIS INVENTION OF DEGATON'S WON'T! MY OLD INJUSTICE SOCIETY FELLOW MEMBER DIDN'T GO FAR ENOUGH WITH IT, HOWEVER! HE USED IT MERELY TO PARALYZE THE WILL! I'VE IMPROVED HIS BEAM--SO I CAN CONTROL THE WILL!

19

BY PREVENTING THE **FLASHES** FROM TEAMING UP AGAINST ME--BY USING THE **WILL-CONTROLLER** TO MAKE THEM BATTLE **EACH OTHER** INSTEAD OF **ME**--IT'LL ENABLE ME TO CAPTURE THEM BOTH!

WHEN THE BEAM FROM THIS **WILL-CONTROLLER** HITS THEM, IT WILL DIRECT THEM TO FIGHT ONE ANOTHER--FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF CAPTURING **ME!** WHEN THEY'RE SO WEAK THEY CAN'T FIGHT ANY MORE--I'LL ENCASE THEM IN MY CUBES!

UNAWARE OF THE GRIM TRAP INTO WHICH THEY ARE HEADING, THE **FLASH** PAIR RACES INTO **MAMMOTH CAVES...**

I'VE HIT THEM WITH THE INVISIBLE BEAMS OF THE **WILL-PARALYZER!** NOW THEY'LL BE TOO BUSY FIGHTING EACH OTHER TO BOTHER ABOUT **ME!**

INSTANTLY THE TWO **FLASHES** TURN ON ONE ANOTHER...

AND AS THEY DO...

WHILE THE TWO **FLASHES** FIGHT IT OUT FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF CAPTURING ME, I'LL MAKE MY GETAWAY... TO SET A TRAP AND CAPTURE THE WINNER--IF THERE IS ONE!

BEHIND HIM, BARRY-**FLASH** DRUMS HIS FEET ON THE ROCKY GROUND OF THE VAST CAVERNS...

I MUST OVER-COME JAY--SO I AND I ALONE CAN CAPTURE THIS **VANDAL SAVAGE!**

AS HIS FEET SET UP TREMENDOUS VIBRATIONS, JAGGED STALACTITES SNAP OFF AND DROP IN A DEADLY SHOWER TOWARD JAY-**FLASH**...

IF BARRY THINKS **HE'S** GOING TO CAPTURE **MY** OLD ENEMY--HE'S GOT ANOTHER THINK COMING!

DARTING BETWEEN THE FALLING STONE SPEARS, JAY-**FLASH** ROTATES HIS ARM AT FURIOUS SPEED...

I CAN MOVE JUST AS FAST AS HE CAN! LET'S SEE HOW **HE** LIKES BEING A TARGET FOR THOSE STALACTITES!

CREATING A MIGHTY WIND, HE TURNS THE JAGGED ROCKS STRAIGHT AT HIS **FLASH** FOE...

BUT BARRY-FLASH--DODGING AND DARTING THOSE DEADLY MISSILES--CIRCLES FASTER AND FASTER ABOUT HIS FELLOW SCARLET SPEEDSTER...

THIS VORTEX OF SUPER-HURRICANE PROPORTIONS IS MAKING ME SPIN LIKE A TOP! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO!

DESPERATELY JAY-**FLASH** REACHES OUT--GRASPS HIS COUNTERPART BY AN ARM...

TWO CAN PLAY AT THIS SORT OF GAME!

21

NOW IT IS THE TURN OF BARRY-**FLASH** TO CIRCLE AROUND AND AROUND...

WHEN I LET GO--HE'LL BE HURLED WITH SUPER-SPEED AND CENTRIFUGAL FORCE AGAINST THE ROCKY CAVERN WALL!

ONE SCARLET SPEEDSTER RELEASES HIS HOLD--AND THE OTHER SAILS LIKE A BULLET TOWARD THE JAGGED ROCKS...

IN MID-FLIGHT, BARRY-FLASH'S PALMS PUSH BACK AGAINST THE AIR IN A SWIMMING MOTION SO SWIFTLY THAT THEY BRAKE HIS PROGRESS...

INCHES FROM THE DEADLY WALL, HE DROPS LIGHTLY TO THE GROUND AND...

JAY IS OLDER THAN I AM--AND CAN'T KEEP UP THIS SPEED DUEL AS LONG AS I! I'LL TRY OUT A SUPER-WIND ON HIM AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

JAY-FLASH IS WILLING--BUT HIS BODY, SO LONG OUT OF RETIREMENT--IS CLOSE TO EXHAUSTION. HE IS HURLED BACKWARD BY THE GALE...

THAT TAKES CARE OF HIM! NOW TO GO AFTER **VANDAL SAVAGE** AND CAPTURE HIM!

AS BARRY-FLASH SPEEDS OFF, VANDAL SAVAGE SLIPS OUT FROM BEHIND A STALAGMITE...

NOW I CAN PUT MY OLD ENEMY IN A CUBE FROM WHICH THIS TIME THERE'LL BE NO ESCAPE! AH--THERE GOES THE OTHER FLASH--VIBRATING HIMSELF INTO INVISIBILITY!

BUT IF HE THINKS TO OVER-COME ME THAT WAY, HE'S WRONG--DEAD WRONG! EVEN INVISIBILITY CAN'T SAVE HIM FROM THE CLEVER TRAP I ARRANGED! I ANTICIPATED HIS POSSIBLE USE OF INVISIBILITY--AND GUARDED AGAINST IT!

MEANWHILE, BARRY-FLASH IS RACING FROM THE CAVES INTO THE SCIENTIFIC HIDE-OUT BELOW THEM...

THERE'S VANDAL SAVAGE NOW--WAITING TO DROP ME AS SOON AS HE SEES ME! BUT HE'LL NEVER GET THE CHANCE TO SEE ME...

UNAWARE THAT THIS VANDAL SAVAGE IS ONLY A CREATED IMAGE OF THE REAL VILLAIN, THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE LEAPS FORWARD...

ONE SOLID BLOW WILL KNOCK HIM COLD!

THEN IN MID-AIR HE HALTS HIS PUNCH...

WAIT! THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE!

FROM A SAFE DISTANCE HE TOSSES A STONE AT THE FIGURE OF VANDAL SAVAGE AND...

I WAS RIGHT! IF I'D MADE CONTACT WITH THAT IMAGE OF VANDAL SAVAGE--HIS INESCAPABLE CUBE WOULD HAVE INSTANTLY FORMED AND TRAPPED ME INSIDE!

VROOM!

23

MOMENTS LATER, HAVING HEARD THE EXPLODING IMAGE OF HIS DUPLICATE, VANDAL SAVAGE RACES INTO HIS HIDE-OUT...

THE TRAP'S BEEN SPRUNG! I CAUGHT HIM! SINCE HE WAS **INVISIBLE** WHEN THE CUBE FORMED ABOUT HIM, HE'LL REMAIN INVISIBLE FOR ALL ETERNITY! NOW **ALL** THE **JUSTICE SOCIETY** MEMBERS WHO IMPRISONED ME--ARE MY PRISONERS!

THAT'S WHAT **YOU** THINK, **VANDAL SAVAGE!**

HUH? **YOU**--YOU'RE **ALL** FREE! BUT I CREATED THE PERFECT DUPLICATE! WHAT COULD HAVE GIVEN IT AWAY?

WHEN YOU CREATED IT, THE IMAGE-MAKING MACHINE MUST HAVE USED SO MUCH POWER, THE LIGHTS DIMMED! IN THAT DIM LIGHT THE IRISES OF YOUR EYES **EXPANDED!** YOUR IDENTICAL IMAGE SHOWED THOSE SAME **EXPANDED** IRISES--WHEN WITH BRIGHT LIGHTS SHINING, THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN CONTRACTED!

WARNED THAT YOUR IMAGE WASN'T REAL, I TOSSED A STONE AT IT--THEN WENT AND FREED MY FRIEND, THE FLASH!

WHEREUPON WE RACED BACK AND FREED MY FELLOW **JUSTICE SOCIETY** MEMBERS--WHILE YOU WERE RUNNING INTO THIS HIDE-OUT FROM THE CAVES OUTSIDE!

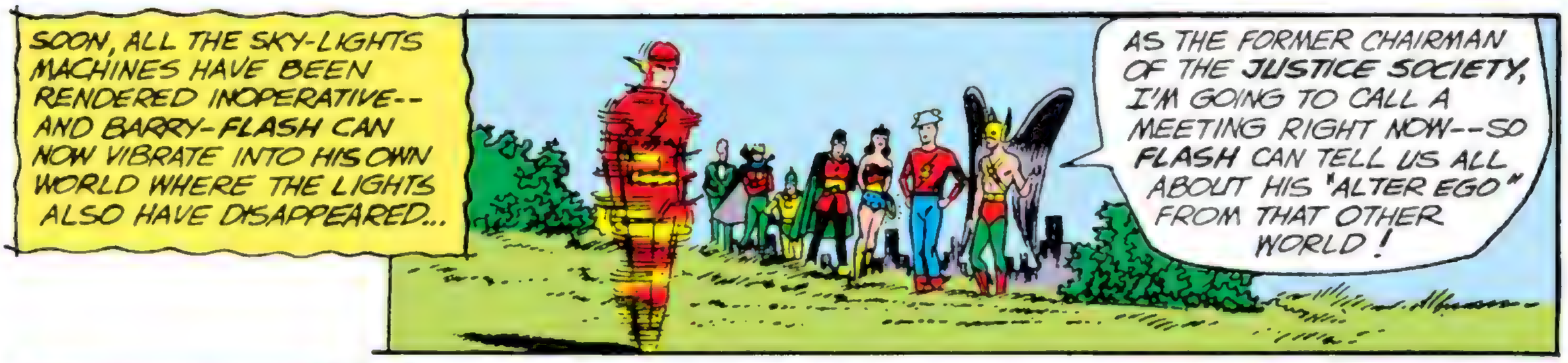
THE **JUSTICE SOCIETY** MEMBERS CONVERSE AMONG THEM-SELVES AS THE TWO FLASHES TAKE VANDAL SAVAGE BACK TO PRISON...

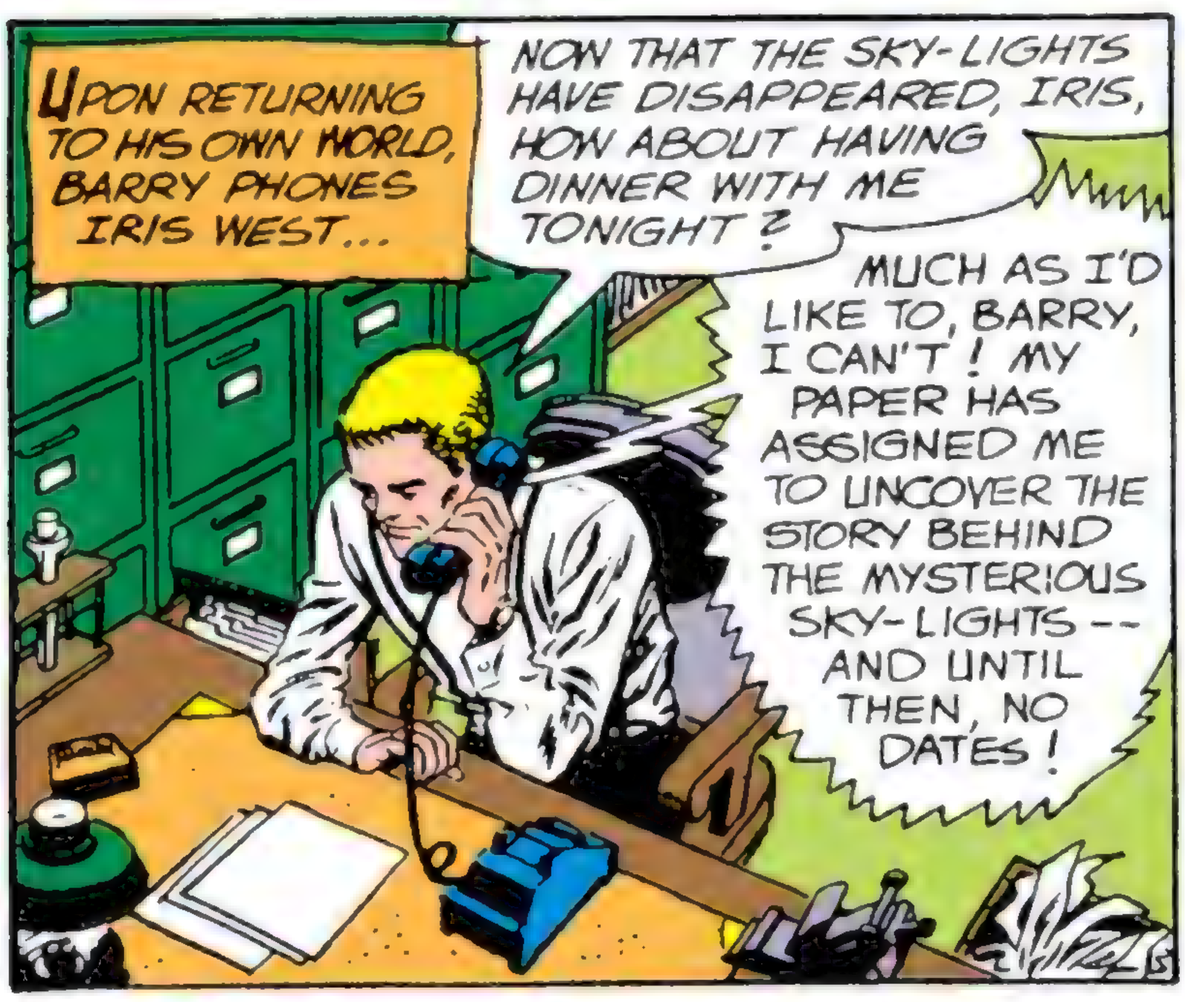
WE'LL SHUT OFF THIS MASTER CONTROL OF THE CUBE-MAKING MACHINES NEAR THE SKY-LIGHTS ENGINES--SO WE CAN DISMANTLE THEM WITHOUT DANGER!

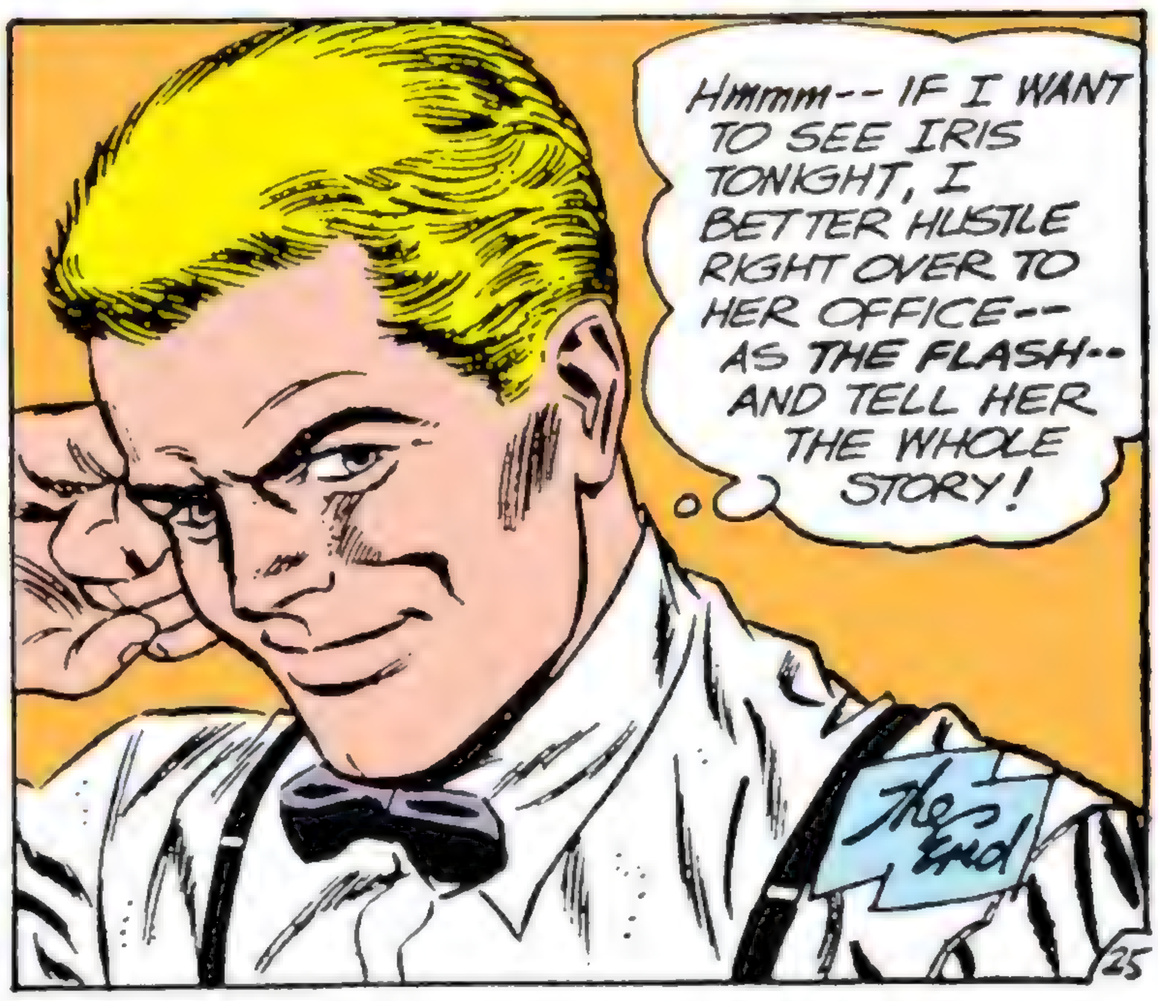
YOU KNOW, BOYS--I'VE BEEN THINKING--

24

IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA FOR US TO MEET EVERY SO OFTEN--COME OUT OF RETIREMENT, AS IT WERE--TO PREVENT ANYTHING LIKE THIS HAPPENING AGAIN!
I'M IN FAVOR OF IT!
ME, TOO!
WE'LL CONTACT FLASH AND SET A DATE FOR A FUTURE MEETING!


SOON, ALL THE SKY-LIGHTS MACHINES HAVE BEEN RENDERED INOPERATIVE--AND BARRY-FLASH CAN NOW VIBRATE INTO HIS OWN WORLD WHERE THE LIGHTS ALSO HAVE DISAPPEARED...
AS THE FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE JUSTICE SOCIETY, I'M GOING TO CALL A MEETING RIGHT NOW--SO FLASH CAN TELL US ALL ABOUT HIS "ALTER EGO" FROM THAT OTHER WORLD!


UPON RETURNING TO HIS OWN WORLD, BARRY PHONES IRIS WEST...
NOW THAT THE SKY-LIGHTS HAVE DISAPPEARED, IRIS, HOW ABOUT HAVING DINNER WITH ME TONIGHT?
Mmm
MUCH AS I'D LIKE TO, BARRY, I CAN'T! MY PAPER HAS ASSIGNED ME TO UNCOVER THE STORY BEHIND THE MYSTERIOUS SKY-LIGHTS--AND UNTIL THEN, NO DATES!


Hmmm--IF I WANT TO SEE IRIS TONIGHT, I BETTER HUSTLE RIGHT OVER TO HER OFFICE--AS THE FLASH--AND TELL HER THE WHOLE STORY!
The End
25

The Flash

SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

The FLASH

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

MAR.
NO.151

NOT EVEN MY SUPER-SPEED CAN PENETRATE THE DARK BARRIER THAT'S PROTECTING *THE SHADE* AND IMPRISONING MY FELLOW-*FLASH!*

A *New* DOUBLE-FLASH THRILLER...

"*INVADER from the DARK DIMENSION!*"

THE FLASH

PLUS A GUEST APPEARANCE BY JAY (FLASH) GARRICK!

THE BLACKNESS CAME FIRST--AN EERIE HUE OF SOLID JET WHICH SWALLOWED UP EVERYTHING VALUABLE AROUND IT! AFTER THE BLACKNESS CAME THE CREATURES OF THE ***DARK DIMENSION***--INVULNERABLE EVEN TO THAT MASTER OF ALL SWIFTNESS, ***THE FLASH!*** ONLY THE ***DUKE OF DARKNESS--THE SHADE***--COULD COMMAND THEIR OBEDIENCE! WITH THE ***SCARLET SPEEDSTER*** HELPLESS AND ***THE SHADE*** TRIUMPHANT, NEITHER ***EARTH-1*** NOR ***EARTH-2*** HAD ANY DEFENSE AGAINST THE...

INVADER FROM THE DARK DIMENSION!

IF A CONCENTRATED DOSE OF LIGHTNING DOESN'T STOP THIS ALIEN BEAST FROM THE ***DARK ZONE***, NOTHING WILL!

THE STREET KNOWN AS THE *DIAMOND MART* IN *CENTRAL CITY* IS THE JEWEL BOX OF THE MID-WEST. ALONG ITS THOROUGHFARE ONE DAY A WOMAN'S VOICE RINGS OUT TRIUMPHANTLY!...

BARRY, THERE IT IS! I FINALLY FOUND IT-- AFTER TWO YEARS OF HUNTING ALL OVER!

JEWEL

WHA-WHAT DID YOU FIND, IRIS?

THERE! THE ONE RING IN THE WORLD I WANT FOR MY ENGAGEMENT RING! ALL ALONG-- EVEN WHILE YOU PLEADED WITH ME TO LET YOU GIVE ME A RING TO SEAL OUR ENGAGEMENT-- I COULD NEVER FIND THE RING I HAD MY HEART SET ON!

BUBBLING OVER WITH HAPPINESS (*BECAUSE TWO YEARS IS A LONG TIME TO BE LOOKING FOR AN ENGAGEMENT RING WITHOUT FINDING IT*), IRIS WEST DRAGS A BEAMING BARRY (***FLASH***) ALLEN INTO THE JEWEL SALON...

IT'S BEEN WORTH THE WAIT, DARLING!

JEWELERS EXCHANGE

MOMENTS LATER, BEAMING EYES EXAMINE THE UNUSUAL JEWEL IN ITS UNUSUAL SETTING...

I MUST TRY IT ON! OH, BARRY-- I'M SO THRILLED!

ME, TOO! I WAS BEGINNING TO THINK YOU'D NEVER OWN AN ENGAGEMENT RING, HONEY! LET'S SEE HOW IT LOOKS!

AS IRIS PUTS DOWN THE RING TO PULL OFF HER GLOVE, SHE DOES NOT NOTICE A ***BLACK SPOT*** MATERIALIZE ON THE DISPLAY COUNTER...

THE SPOT GROWS AND GROWS-- SWIFTLY AND SILENTLY--ENCOMPASSING THE RING, SO THAT WHEN IRIS REACHES FOR IT...

OHHH! BARRY, IT'S CAUGHT! SOMETHING HAS HOLD OF IT!

2

WITH A SCREAM OF MINGLED FEAR AND ANGER, THE GIRL SEES THE DARK BLOTCH ENLARGE UNTIL..

OH, MY GOODNESS! IT'S SWALLOWED UP MY RING! BARRY--GET IT OUT!

I'M TRYING TO-- BUT THIS BLACK STUFF IS AS HARD AS STEEL!

LARGER GROWS THE INCREDIBLE DARKNESS UNTIL ...

THIS IS THE MOST FANTASTIC THING I'VE EVER SEEN! I BETTER GET HELP!

I'LL GO WITH THE CLERK, BARRY! YOU STAY PUT-- KEEP TABS ON IT!

AS IRIS AND THE CLERK RUN TO SOUND THE ALARM, BARRY USES THE SUPER-SPEED OF HIS HANDS TO TRY AND CRACK THE STRANGE SUBSTANCE ...

NOBODY CAN SEE WHAT I'M DOING, SO IT'S SAFE TO-- ***UHH!*** I CAN'T EVEN DENT IT!

LARGER GROWS THE EERIE BARRIER UNTIL IT FILLS HALF THE STORE..

BARRY! WHAT A STORY FOR THE ***PICTURE NEWS!***

HUH? HOW ABOUT THAT! AFTER HUNTING TWO YEARS FOR A RING--AFTER FINDING IT--THEN LOSING IT--HER MAIN CONCERN IS FOR THE SCOOP SHE'S GETTING FOR HER NEWSPAPER! I GUESS I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND WOMEN!

POLICE SIRENS WAIL AS PROWL CARS PULL UP TO THE SITE OF THE OCCURRENCE! IRIS COMMANDEERS A STREET CORNER PHONE BOOTH! PEOPLE SURROUND THE STORE FRONT! AND ALONE, OFF TO ONE SIDE ...

HERE'S MY CHANCE TO SWITCH TO ***THE FLASH!*** WITH ALL THIS COMMOTION, NOBODY'LL NOTICE ME!

3

FROM HIS POCKET, BARRY SLIPS ON A SPECIAL RING AND PRESSES A SECRET SPRING -- CAUSING A TINY RED COSTUME TO ERUPT FROM IT AND EXPAND WHEN IT HITS THE AIR...

BEFORE A SECOND CAN TICK BY, THE ***SCARLET SPEEDSTER*** FLASHES TOWARD THE DARK BARRIER LOOMING IN THE STORE DOORWAY...

EVERY-BODY BACK!

I SHOULD HAVE THE ENDING FOR THE STORY IN A MINUTE! ***THE FLASH*** JUST SHOWED UP--!

VIBRATING SO SWIFTLY THAT HIS BODY IS A BLUR, THE ***FASTEST MAN ON EARTH*** SLAMS INTO THE BLACKNESS...

ONCE I VIBRATE INSIDE THAT THING, I'LL FIND OUT WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!

NEXT INSTANT, HE BOUNCES BACK OFF THE WEIRD EBON SUBSTANCE...

INCREDIBLE! AT MY SPEED I CAN VIBRATE THROUGH THE DENSEST MATERIAL! WHAT CAN THIS STUFF BE MADE OF?

HE TRIES THE FRICTION OF HANDS RUBBED WITH SUPER-SWIFTNESS OVER THE SMOOTH BLACK SURFACE...

THIS DOESN'T WORK--!

--NOR THIS!

...AND THE AWE-SOME TENSION OF FEET DRUMMED WITH THE FORCE OF A THOUSAND TRIPHAMMERS AGAINST THE EBONY MATERIAL...

HE GOES UNDER THE DARK BLOB-- ONLY TO LEARN IT IS AS SOLID ON THE BOTTOM AS IT IS ON TOP...

CAN'T EVEN SCRATCH IT!

PD

HE VIBRATES THROUGH THE STEEL AND GLASS OF THE BUILDING TO STAND ON TOP OF THE BLOB-- WITH THE SAME NEGATIVE RESULTS...

I'VE EXHAUSTED MY REPERTOIRE OF SPEED TRICKS! WHAT DO I DO NOW?

THEN--AS **FLASH** DASHES OUTSIDE AGAIN, DESPERATELY HOPING TO COME UP WITH ANOTHER COURSE OF ACTION...

NICE WORK, **FLASH**! IT'S SHRINKING! SOON AS IT DISAPPEARS, I'LL GET MY RING-- AND YOUR EXCLUSIVE STORY! WHAT A DAY THIS HAS BEEN!

JEWELRY

IN THE DOORWAY OF THE STORE, A SOB OF DESPAIR RISES FROM HER THROAT AS IRIS SEES...

OHHH! THE BLACK BLOB HAS GONE-- BUT SO ARE ALL THE JEWELS IN THE STORE-- INCLUDING MY ENGAGEMENT RING!

NOTHING MORE **THE FLASH** CAN DO HERE! AND SINCE IRIS WILL BE EXPECTING TO SEE **BARRY** RIGHT ABOUT NOW, I'D BETTER CHANGE BACK TO MY OTHER SELF!

MART

OUT OF SIGHT OF CURIOUS EYES, **FLASH** DOFFS HIS UNIFORM AND PRESSES ANOTHER PART OF HIS RING-- WHICH DRAWS THE RAPIDLY SHRINKING UNIFORM BACK INSIDE IT WITH A SMALL BUT POWERFUL SUCTION DEVICE...

MOMENTS LATER...

OH, THERE YOU ARE, BARRY! WELL, THE RING'S GONE! EVEN ***THE FLASH*** COULDN'T GET IT BACK!

SO I HEARD! er--HOW ABOUT A DRIVE AROUND TOWN-- MIGHT GET YOUR MIND OFF ALL THIS...

AS IRIS PULLS OUT INTO TRAFFIC, HER CAR RADIO COMES ALIVE...

--TO BRING YOU THE FOLLOWING NEWS BULLETIN! STRANGE CREATURES SURROUNDED BY A BLACK BARRIER HAVE BEEN SIGHTED IN THE NORTH END OF *CENTRAL CITY!*

BARRY-- LISTEN TO ***THAT!***

THESE DARK BEINGS ARE FLYING -- LEAPING-- CRAWLING ALONG THE GROUND-- STEALING EVERYTHING VALUABLE IN THEIR PATH!

MY REPORTER'S INSTINCT TELLS ME THERE'S SOME SORT OF TIE-UP BETWEEN THOSE CREATURES AND THE BLACK ODDBALLS WHO STOLE MY RING!

LIPS TIGHT WITH DE-TERMINATION, THE GIRL REPORTER SPEEDS SKILLFULLY THROUGH THE CITY TRAFFIC...

SOON AS ***THE FLASH*** HEARS ABOUT THOSE THIEVING ALIEN CREATURES--HE'LL BE AROUND TO STOP THEM! BARRY, I'M GOING THERE TOO!

OKAY, HON-- BUT LET ME OFF FIRST!

BARRY, YOU'RE A ***POLICEMAN!*** IT SEEMS TO ME YOU'D WANT TO ***HELP!***

I ***DO*** WANT TO HELP! BUT I'M A ***LABORATORY ANALYST,*** NOT A ***FIELD INVESTIGATOR!*** MY JOB IS TO ANALYZE INFORMATION OTHER POLICEMEN BRING ME! I'LL GO DIRECTLY TO THE LAB -- AND HELP FROM THERE!

6

SCARCELY DOES IRIS DROP HER FIANCÉ AT A NEARBY SIDEWALK THAN ...

I CHANGED INTO MY **FLASH** OUTFIT EVEN BEFORE IRIS PULLED AWAY FROM THE CURB! NOW WHEN SHE ARRIVES IN THE NORTH END OF TOWN--SHE'LL FIND **FLASH** ALREADY AT WORK--TRYING TO SUCCEED WHERE HE FAILED BEFORE!

SOME DISTANCE AHEAD OF THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER**, A MASSIVE **SOMETHING** IS TRUDGING INTO THE **NORTHSIDE BANK**...

WHAT **IS** IT?

WHERE'D IT **COME** FROM?

BANK OF

WHERE IT PASSES--ALL MONEY DISAPPEARS! POLICE BULLETS BOUNCE OFF THE BLACK SHELL AROUND IT...

OKAY, **FLASH**! TAKE OVER--

WE'RE GETTING NOWHERE AGAINST THAT NIGHTMARE!

THE **MONARCH OF MOTION** SPINS LIKE A SUPER DERVISH--HURLING A TORRENT OF VIBRATIONS AT THE UNCANNY PRESENCE...

I'VE SET UP SHOCK-WAVES EQUAL TO THOSE CREATED BY A SMALL ATOM-BOMB--ONLY THEY DON'T SEEM TO BOTHER IT!

7

MOMENTS AFTERWARD--COMPLETELY UNTOUCHED BY THE AWESOME SPEED-BLASTS WHICH *THE FLASH* FLINGS AT IT--THE CREATURE EMERGES FROM THE BANK ...

I COULDN'T STOP THE THING FROM ROBBING-- BUT MAYBE I CAN PREVENT ITS GETAWAY!

BANK of NORTH C

WORKING WITH SUCH AMAZING SWIFTNESS THAT NO ONE CAN SEE HIM, HE DIGS A MIGHTY PIT BEFORE THE BANK STEPS...

THAT THING IS TOO **BIG** TO JUMP **OVER** THIS HOLE! IT WILL-- FALL **INTO** IT!

NEXT MOMENT, THE ALIEN TOPPLES OVER THE RIM AND SLIDES DOWN INSIDE THE EXCAVATION!

AND IT'S **TOO HEAVY** TO CRAWL OUT! I'VE--CAUGHT IT!

8

STORY CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE...

THE FLASH

INVADER FROM THE DARK DIMENSION!

PART 2

THE BEATING OF DARK WINGS OVERHEAD ALERTS THE *SCARLET SPEEDSTER* TO THE FACT THAT HIS WORK HAS ONLY BEGUN! SWOOPING LOW ABOVE THE CITY STREETS--HEADING TOWARD A DISPLAY OF ART OBJECTS IN A PUBLIC PARK--COMES ANOTHER MONSTROSITY OUT OF NIGHTMARE! BUT WHAT CAN THE *FASTEST MAN ON EARTH* DO AGAINST A FOE THAT IS SEEMINGLY OUT OF HIS REACH?

AS THE WINGED CREATURE SKIMS THE ART DISPLAY--ABSORBING RARE TREASURES AS IT DOES SO--THE **CRIMSON COMET** SPURTS FORWARD...

WHILE I CAN'T MAKE DIRECT CONTACT WITH IT, I **CAN** BATTLE IT WITH A CYCLONIC-LIKE WIND!

TO ONE SIDE, AN OVERJOYED IRIS WEST HOPS UP AND DOWN TO ENCOURAGE THE MAN SHE IS COUNTING ON TO GET HER ENGAGEMENT RING BACK...

GO TO IT, **FLASH!** POLISH THEM OFF-- **FLASH-STYLE!**

AROUND AND AROUND GOES THE **FASTEST MAN ON EARTH,** SETTING UP A TITANIC WHIRL-WIND THAT GRIPS THE ALIEN CREATURE AND SPINS IT...

THINGS ARE GOING MY WAY AT LAST! IT WON'T BE STEALING ANY MORE STATUES WHILE IT STAYS "PUT"!

THERE IS NO TIME FOR FURTHER SELF-CONGRATULATION-- FOR AT THIS MOMENT **THE FLASH** SEES ANOTHER THREAT LOOMING UP...

OHH! THIS ONE LOOKS TOUGHER THAN THE OTHER TWO COMBINED!

;whew; I HAVE MY WORK CUT OUT FOR ME WITH THAT MONSTROUS THING!

10

NEITHER SUPER-SWIFT VIBRATIONS NOR AWESOME PIT NOR CYCLONIC WIND HAS ANY EFFECT ON THE MIGHTY COLOSSUS!...

I'VE FOUGHT SOME FORMIDABLE OPPONENTS IN MY TIME--

--BUT THIS ONE COPS THE PRIZE--

-- FOR SHEER INVULNERABILITY!

SUDDENLY, THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER** CUTS OFF HIS SUPER-SPEED STUNTS AND...

FLASH, WHAT ARE YOU GAPING AT? THERE'S NOTHING UP THERE TO HELP YOU--

I WONDER--THAT DARK CLOUD ON THE HORIZON AND THAT BOLT OF LIGHTNING--MAY BE THE "WEAPON" I NEED TO STOP THAT COLOSSUS!

SPEEDING PAST THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN, HE WINDMILLS HIS ARMS TO BLOW THE DARK CLOUD BEFORE HIM...

ACTUALLY "LIGHTNING" IS INVISIBLE! WHAT THE EYE SEES IS THE PATH OF BURNING AIR THROUGH WHICH THE BOLT OF ELECTRICITY HAS JUST PASSED!

AS THE CLOUD MOVES ABOVE THE DARK MONSTER, JAGGED YELLOW BOLTS STAB DOWNWARD-- TOUCHING AND HAMMERING ITS COLOSSAL BULK!...

THEY AREN'T EVEN TICKLING IT! YET LIGHTNING CONTAINS UP TO 340,000 AMPERES--AND ONLY 2400 ARE NEEDED TO KILL A MAN! I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING MORE AND--I THINK I KNOW WHAT IT IS!

MOVING EVEN MORE SWIFTLY THAN THE LIGHTNING BOLTS THEMSELVES, THE *SCARLET SPEEDSTER* PUSHES AGAINST THEM--PROTECTED BY THE AURA OF HIS SUPER-SWIFT BODY--JOINING THEM INTO A SINGLE MASSIVE BOLT!...

ZZZLTT!

THEN AS *FLASH* AND IRIS WATCH, THE ALIEN CREATURE FADES AWAY...

FLASH--YOU DID IT! YOU MADE ALL THESE ALIEN CREATURES GO BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM! NOW HOW ABOUT GOING AFTER THEM AND GET BACK MY RING?

I--I CAN'T, IRIS! THERE'S NO WAY FOR ME TO PENETRATE THE MYSTERIOUS BLACK BARRIER THAT PROTECTS THEM!

DESPAIR SLUMPS THE GIRL REPORTER'S SHOULDERS...

I--I WAS COUNTING ON YOU SO MUCH! I--I GUESS I'LL NEVER WEAR AN ENGAGEMENT RING NOW--BECAUSE THERE'S NO OTHER ONE LIKE IT ON EARTH!

HEY--WAIT! ON EARTH-1, MAYBE! BUT HOW ABOUT ON--*EARTH-2*?

EARTH-2 IS ANOTHER EARTH, SEPARATED FROM OURS BY A VIBRATIONAL BARRIER! I'VE HAD ADVENTURES IN IT--AND JAY GARRICK, WHO IS *THE FLASH* ON THAT OTHER EARTH, CAME TO *EARTH-1* TO GET A DUPLICATE METEOR HE NEEDED TO SAVE HIS EARTH*!

*Editor's Note: SEE **FLASH** #129: "DOUBLE DANGER ON EARTH!"

THERE ARE DOUBLES OF PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING ON THOSE TWO EARTHS! SO THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THERE'S A DUPLICATE OF IRIS' LOST RING ON *EARTH-2*! BUT I CAN'T GO THERE AT THIS CRITICAL MOMENT--WHEN I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A CASE TRACKING DOWN THOSE EBONY ALIENS!

12

AS BARRY ALLEN, HE RETURNS TO HIS POLICE LABORATORY WHERE...

I NOTICED THAT WHENEVER I CAME CLOSE TO THOSE ALIEN CREATURES, MY BODY STARTED VIBRATING IN AN ODD MANNER! BY ANALYZING THOSE VIBRATIONS, I MAY COME UP WITH SOME CLUE AS TO THEIR ORIGIN!

HE BUSIES HIMSELF WITH AN ELECTRONIC VIBRATION DETECTOR...

JUST AS FINGERPRINTS LEAVE THEIR TELLTALE MARKS, SO DO VIBRATIONS! I'LL RECORD THOSE STILL LINGERING IN MY BODY ON A PUNCHED CARD...

ARMED WITH A PATTERN OF THE VIBRATIONS, HE FEEDS THE DATA INTO A COMPUTER, AND SOON AFTER...

GOOD GOSH! THESE VIBRATIONS MATCH THOSE I OBTAINED FROM THE CANE OF **THE SHADE** -- WHEN I LAST TANGLED WITH HIM!*

*EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE THE FLASH #123: "Flash of Two Worlds!"

THE SHADE LIVES ON **EARTH-2**! BUT I DOUBT THAT THOSE ALIEN CREATURES CAME FROM THERE -- SO HOW IS **THE SHADE** INVOLVED IN THIS MYSTERY? MY STARTING POINT FOR CLEARING UP THIS MYSTERY IS TO VIBRATE MYSELF INTO **EARTH-2**!

AS HE HAS DONE A NUMBER OF TIMES IN THE PAST, **THE FLASH** RACES INTO THE OLD THEATER WHICH IS A GATEWAY BETWEEN THE TWO EARTHS, WHERE...

SOON AS I GET THERE, I'LL CONTACT **THE FLASH** OF **EARTH-2 -- JAY GARRICK**! PERHAPS HE KNOWS SOMETHING ABOUT **THE SHADE** THAT WILL EXPLAIN MATTERS!

SOON AFTER, IN ANSWER TO THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER'S** KNOCK ON THE DOOR OF THE GARRICK HOME...

GOOD GOSH! THERE'S THE SAME RING IRIS WANTED FOR AN ENGAGEMENT RING!

13

THEN THE DOOR SWINGS WIDE AND HE FINDS HIMSELF STARING AT MRS. JAY GARRICK -- THE FORMER JOAN WILLIAMS...

FLASH! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU -- Hmmm! YOU'RE STARING AT MY RING -- AND NO WONDER! IT WAS MY ENGAGEMENT RING -- THE ONLY ONE LIKE IT ON EARTH!

THEN THERE IS A DOUBLE OF IRIS' RING HERE! BUT -- I COULDN'T POSSIBLY ASK JOAN TO PART WITH IT!

AS JOAN LEADS HIM INTO THE LIVING ROOM...

HI, BARRY! WHAT BRINGS YOU TO EARTH-2?

THE SHADE! LET ME TELL YOU OF THE INCREDIBLE HAPPENINGS OF THE PAST HALF DOZEN HOURS ON EARTH-1!

WHEN HIS STORY IS CONCLUDED, THE EARTH-2 FLASH DRAWS A DEEP BREATH, THEN PLUNGES INTO HIS OWN RECITAL...

ODDLY ENOUGH, THE CASE I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GO OUT ON ALSO CONCERNS THE SHADE! LATELY, HE'S BEEN SPENDING MONEY AS IF IT WERE GOING OUT OF STYLE!

"THE SHADE WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON FOR GOOD CONDUCT AFTER WE LAST PUT HIM THERE. SOON AFTER, HE BEGAN 'LIVING IT UP'..."

I'M TREATING EVERYONE IN THE PLACE TO DINNER!

"SINCE THE SHADE NEVER EARNED AN HONEST DOLLAR IN HIS LIFE, ALL HIS MONEY MUST HAVE COME FROM ROBBERIES -- ONLY THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF ANY SUCH ROBBERIES! SO I DECIDED TO TRAIL HIM..."

I'LL KEEP HIM IN VIEW UNTIL I LEARN WHERE HE GETS THE FORTUNE HE'S BEEN SQUANDERING! I'LL VIBRATE SO SWIFTLY HE WON'T KNOW HE'S BEING FOLLOWED!

14

"SURE ENOUGH, I CAUGHT HIM VISITING AN ART DEALER-- A FENCE WHO TURNS STOLEN GOODS INTO CASH-- WITH A RARE CELLINI VASE..."

HOLD IT! THAT'S THE CELLINI CUP! THERE'S ONLY ONE LIKE IT--AND IT BELONGS TO A FOREIGN MUSEUM!

ON THE CONTRARY, FLASH-- IT BELONGS TO ME!

"A QUICK CHECK BROUGHT THE ASTONISHING NEWS THAT TWO SUCH MASTERPIECES MUST EXIST, FOR..."

THE MUSEUM STILL HAS ITS CUP! YET THAT ONE IS A PERFECT DUPLICATE OF IT! I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT...

LET'S JUST SAY I'M TOO CLEVER FOR YOU, FLASH!

NOW, OF COURSE, I UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING! THE SHADE HAS BEEN ROBBING ON EARTH-1!

AND HE MUST HAVE BEEN ROBBING FOR QUITE A WHILE, PERHAPS SECRETLY AT FIRST! NOW HE'S COME RIGHT OUT INTO THE OPEN! I'M CONVINCED HE'S BEHIND THE MYSTERIOUS DARK CREATURES THAT HAVE APPEARED ON MY EARTH!

WITHIN MOMENTS, THE FLASHES OF TWO WORLDS RACE OUT OF KEYSTONE CITY...

WE'LL PAY THE SHADE A VISIT AND CONFRONT HIM WITH THE TRUTH!

BUT SINCE THE SHADE IS SO TRICKY-- I'M GOING TO REMAIN INVISIBLE! THAT WAY, I'LL HAVE A COUNTERMOVE FOR ANY TRICK HE TRIES TO SPRING ON YOU!

SOON AFTERWARD, JAY-FLASH RACES INTO THE HOUSE OF THE DUKE OF DARKNESS...

THE FLASH! SO GOOD OF YOU TO VISIT ME! COME IN, COME IN, BY ALL MEANS!

YOU WON'T SWEET-TALK YOUR WAY OUT OF THIS, SHADE-- YOU'VE BEEN ROBBING ON EARTH-1!

BY EREBUS! I'M SURPRISED YOU DIDN'T TUMBLE TO IT SOONER, FLASH! YES, YOU'RE PERFECTLY RIGHT! I MADE A FORTUNE--A DOZEN FORTUNES!--ON EARTH-1, THANKS-- TO YOU!

THANKS-- TO ME??

HAVE A CHAIR, FLASH--AND I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT!

"YES, **FLASH**-- IT WAS **YOU** WHO SHOWED ME HOW TO VIBRATE FROM **EARTH-2** INTO **EARTH-1**! YOU SEE, I'D HAD MY EYE ON YOU FOR SOME TIME AND WAS WATCHING WHEN YOU CARVED A PATHWAY BETWEEN WORLDS!"...

HE'S VIBRATING IN AN ODD MANNER. WHAT'S HE UP TO?

"I CAUGHT THOSE VIBRATIONS WITH MY CANE--BUT WHEN I DUPLICATED THEM BY PRESSING DOWN THE PLUNGER THAT ACTIVATES MY WALKING STICK..."

I'M IN A STRANGE ZONE OF UTTER DARKNESS! FORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, THE SPECIAL CONTACT LENSES I WEAR ENABLE ME TO SEE PERFECTLY!

"FROM THAT DARK DIMENSION I COULD LOOK INTO BOTH **EARTH-1** AND **EARTH-2**..."

TWO EARTHS! SIMPLY FANTASTIC! WHY, I COULD ROB IN ONE--AND ENJOY MY ILL-GOTTEN GAINS IN THE OTHER--AND NO ONE WOULD BE THE WISER!

"WITH THE POWERS OVER THE DARK ZONE AND ITS ALIEN INHABITANTS WHICH MY CANE GAVE ME, I WAS SOON ROBBING ON **EARTH-1** WHERE AND WHEN I WILLED!..."

I CAN EXTEND THE IMPENETRABLE BLACKNESS OF THE DARK ZONE SO IT WILL ADMIT ONLY OBJECTS OF VALUE THROUGH IT AND TO ME--THANKS TO MY MARVELOUS CANE!

AS ***THE SHADE*** CONCLUDES HIS NARRATIVE...

NOW THAT YOU'VE ADMITTED YOUR GUILT--I'LL TAKE YOU INTO **EARTH-1** FOR PUNISHMENT!

OH, COME NOW, **FLASH!** YOU UNDERESTIMATE ME! DO YOU REALLY THINK I'D HAVE TOLD YOU ALL THAT-- IF THERE WAS THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE OF YOUR STOPPING ME?

TO HIS HORROR, THE ***EARTH-2 FLASH*** DISCOVERS THAT HE CANNOT RISE FROM THE CHAIR...

WH-WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO ME?

ALL THE WHILE I'VE BEEN TALKING TO YOU, ***INVISIBLE BLACK LIGHT*** HAS BEEN BEAMING DOWN ON YOU-- THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF WHICH IS TO BAR YOU FROM EVER LEAVING IT! WHAT A TRIUMPH OVER MY ARCH-FOE! HA, HA!

AT THE SHADE'S MOCKING LAUGHTER, THE EARTH-1 FLASH LEAPS FORWARD...

AM I EVER GLAD I HAD THE FORESIGHT TO REMAIN IN-VISIBLE! NOW TO TURN THE SHADE'S TRIUMPH INTO DEFEAT-- AND FREE MY FELLOW-FLASH!

BUT--EVEN AS HIS FIST SLAMS AGAINST THE SHADE...

OHHH! I'VE BECOME VISIBLE!

eh? BY EREBUS--IT'S MY OTHER VAUNTED FOE, THE EARTH-1 FLASH! YOU SEE, I REMEMBER YOU! AND--I'M 'WAY AHEAD OF YOU, I MIGHT ADD!

I SURROUNDED MYSELF WITH AN UNSEEN BLACK AURA IN CASE THE FLASH OF MY WORLD TRIED ANY INVISIBILITY TRICKS ON ME! IT MADE YOU APPEAR AS SOON AS YOU TOUCHED "ME"! I NEVER FIGURED I'D CATCH YOU THIS WAY, THOUGH! HOWEVER--NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE--

GO AHEAD! TRY TO CAPTURE ME! DON'T LET ME JUST STAND HERE--!

NO, WAIT! I HAVE A BETTER IDEA!

I'LL STAND ON TOP OF MY ACCUMULATED WEALTH TO MAKE IT MORE INVITING FOR YOU! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS OVERCOME ME AND RE-COVER THE LOOT OF MY MANY EARTH-1 ROBBERIES! WELL, COME ON! GIVE IT THAT OLD SUPER-SPEED TRY!

I KNOW HE'S TEMPT-ING ME-- BUT ONE THING'S SURE! I WON'T CAP-TURE HIM JUST BY STARING AT HIM! SO HERE GOES-!

17

BARRELING IN LIKE A HUMAN BULLET, THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER** HURLS HIMSELF AT HIS MOCKING ENEMY...

JUST AS I ANTICIPATED, I CAN'T PENETRATE THE DARK BARRIER THAT PROTECTS HIM! BUT THERE MUST BE A WAY--

NOTHING CAN HARM ME IN THE ZONE OF DARKNESS, **FLASH--ABSOLUTELY NOTHING!**

THEN BEFORE HIS EYES, THE **DUKE OF DARKNESS** BEGINS TO DISAPPEAR...

HAD I KNOWN YOU WERE COMING HERE, I'D HAVE ARRANGED TO CAPTURE YOU TOO, BUT--SINCE YOU CAN NEVER CAPTURE ME IN THE **ZONE OF DARKNESS,** IT REALLY MAKES NO DIFFERENCE!

ONLY A TAUNTING VOICE REVEALS WHERE *THE SHADE* ONCE STOOD...

JUST AS IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO HARM ME, SO IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO ENTER MY **DARK DIMENSION**--OR CAPTURE ME! I AM NOW FREE TO GO ON ROBBING IN **EARTH-1** AS I HAVE BEEN DOING! FAREWELL!

DESPITE ALL HIS BOASTS, I'LL FIND A WAY TO BEAT HIM AND FREE MY FELLOW-**FLASH!**

STORY CONTINUES ON FOLLOWING PAGE

18

The FLASH

INVADER FROM THE DARK DIMENSION!

PART 3

THE *EARTH-1 FLASH* BREAKS SPEED BARRIER AFTER SPEED BARRIER IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO FREE *THE FLASH* OF *EARTH-2*! ALWAYS HE IS BALKED BY THE BAND OF INVISIBLE BLACK LIGHT THAT HOLDS HIS FRIEND IN THRALL!

I'LL FIND A WAY YET TO FREE YOU, JAY!
YOUR BEST BET IS TO RETURN TO *EARTH-1* AND SOMEHOW--IN SOME WAY--CAPTURE *THE SHADE* AND TAKE HIS CANE AWAY FROM HIM! IT'S THE CANE WHICH CONTROLS THIS BLACK LIGHT THAT HOLDS ME PRISONER!

YOU'RE RIGHT! I HATE TO RUN OUT ON YOU LIKE THIS--BUT THE SOONER I GET AFTER ***THE SHADE*** THE SOONER YOU'LL BE FREE!

GOOD HUNTING--AND GOOD LUCK, BARRY!

EVEN AS THE ***SCARLET SPEEDSTER*** VIBRATES INTO HIS OWN WORLD--FOUR TERRIBLE MENACES ARE STIRRING TO LIFE ON ***EARTH-1*** UNDER THE COMMAND OF ***THE SHADE*** AND HIS EBON CANE..

WHERE THE GROUND SHUDDERS AND SPLITS APART UNDER A BATTERING FROM THE DARK DIMENSION--AN EERIE "MAN" OF ANTHRACITE COAL RISES OUT OF A FISSURE IN THE GROUND...

MILES AWAY IN THE ***CENTRAL CITY MUSEUM***, AN EMPTY SUIT OF BLACK ARMOR BEGINS TO MOVE WITH METALLIC STIFFNESS...

IT'S--ALIVE!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE--!

A QUEER FIGURE FORMED OF ***BLACK 8-BALLS*** CLICKS ALONG A SUPER-HIGHWAY...

WHILE A MASSIVE BLOB OF ANIMATED ***INDIA INK*** FLOWS ACROSS THE FENCES AND DITCHES OF A COUNTRYSIDE...

AS THE COAL "MAN" PASSES THROUGH A FACTORY-- ABSORBING ITS PAYROLL CASH WITHIN ITS VAST BULK--*THE FLASH* APPEARS...

THIS IS *THE SHADE'S* HANDIWORK-- AND IT'S UP TO ME TO UNDO IT!

SO SWIFTLY DOES *FLASH* TRAVEL THAT HE CAUSES AIR ON ALL SIDES OF THE COAL-MAN TO IGNITE -- BUT...

THE COAL MUST BE PROTECTED FROM THE FIRE BY THE SAME BLACKNESS WHICH PROTECTED *THE SHADE!*

HE LEAVES ONE AWESOME MENACE AND RACES TO WHERE THE *"BLACK KNIGHT"* IS RAIDING AN ART GALLERY...

I OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO KAYO AT LEAST *ONE* OF THESE THIEVING MENACES!

FROM A FIRE HYDRANT, *FLASH* FREES A STREAM OF WATER-- AND DIRECTS IT WITH PULSE-STUNNING FORCE AT THE BLACK ARMOR AS IT EMERGES FROM THE ART GALLERY...

INCREDIBLE! THAT WATER WOULD KNOCK OVER A DOZEN MEN-- BUT THE EMPTY SUIT OF ARMOR KEEPS ON MOVING!

AGAIN HE ABANDONS ONE FOE TO SEEK ANOTHER...

IT'S JUST ROBBED THAT BANK! PERHAPS I CAN BLOW THOSE 8-BALLS APART!

THE AWESOME WIND THAT SWEEPS THE *CENTRAL CITY* STREET AND BATTERS AGAINST THE 8-BALL GIANT IS STRONGER THAN A HURRICANE, YET...

FAILED AGAIN! I HAVE ONE LAST HOPE-- TO STOP THAT FLOW OF INDIA INK!

BUT EVEN AS HE SLIDES TO A HALT BEFORE THE ADVANCING TORRENT OF BLACK INK, THE *SCARLET SPEEDSTER* SLAPS HIS FOREHEAD IN DISGUST!...

OHHHH-- WHAT AN *IDIOT* I'VE BEEN!

THE SOLUTION TO MY PROBLEM HAS BEEN IN FRONT OF ME RIGHT ALONG! I'VE SEEN IT HALF A DOZEN TIMES-- YET IT MADE NO IMPRESSION ON ME UNTIL THIS MOMENT! IT'S SO *SIMPLE!* NOW I KNOW HOW TO GO INTO THE "IM-PENETRABLE" DARK DIMENSION AFTER *THE SHADE!*

WHAT CAN *THE FLASH* HAVE IN MIND AS HE TURNS AND SPEEDS AWAY FROM THE ADVANCING INK BLOTCH EVEN AS IT MOVES IN TO LOOT THE CITY MUSEUM?...

22

RACING HUNDREDS OF MILES AWAY IN THE WINK OF AN EYELID, THE ***FASTEST MAN ON EARTH*** ARRIVES AT A BRANCH OF THE ***UNITED STATES MINT...***

I'LL FIND WHAT I NEED IN HERE! I'LL HAVE TO BORROW WHAT I WANT--AND RE-TURN IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

MOVING WITH THAT SAME INCREDIBLE SWIFTNESS, HE SNATCHES UP MICRO-THIN SHEETS OF 22-KARAT GOLD LEAF AND PLASTERS THEM OVER HIS BODY...

I MUST MAKE MYSELF LOOK LIKE A STATUE OF SOLID GOLD!

THEN HE RACES BACK TO THE MUSEUM--AND STANDS RIGIDLY NEXT TO OTHER GOLDEN OBJECTS AS THE INDIA INK FLOWS TOWARD THEM...

THE ONLY WAY I HAVE OF GETTING INTO THE DARK DIMENSION WHERE ***THE SHADES*** HIDE-OUT IS--TO BE ***TAKEN THERE*** BY ONE OF ***THE SHADE'S*** ANIMATED "CROOKS"!

SLOWLY--QUESTINGLY--THE INDIA INK TOUCHES THE ***GOLDEN FLASH***--FLOWS ABOUT HIM--AND ABSORBS HIM...

THE SHADE HAS OBVIOUSLY INSTRUCTED THE INK TO TAKE ONLY VALUABLE OBJECTS--SO I'VE FOOLED IT INTO THINKING I'M A PRIZE PIECE OF LOOT!

MOMENTS LATER, INSIDE THE DARK DIMENSION...

THERE HE IS! THINKING HIMSELF COMPLETELY SAFE IN THIS PLACE, ***THE SHADE*** WON'T HAVE ANY OF HIS PROTECTION ABOUT HIM!

23

INSTANTLY THE **SULTAN OF SPEED** VIBRATES SO SWIFTLY HE SENDS A RAIN OF GOLD LEAVES OVER HIS **EARTH-2** FOE ...

OH, NO! **THE FLASH!** HOW DID YOU-- **GLUBBB!**

NOW TO GRAB HIS CANE AWAY FROM HIM!

AS **FLASH'S** FIST SLAMS INTO THE GOLDEN CHEEK OF **THE DUKE OF DARKNESS**, HIS OTHER HAND SNATCHES AWAY THE CANE...

THERE! NOW I HAVE THE CANE AND CAN VIBRATE US BOTH OUT OF THIS PLACE WITH ALL HIS STOLEN LOOT!

BUT--AS THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER** IS ABOUT TO PRESS THE PLUNGER AND ACTIVATE THE WONDROUS WALKING-- STICK...

FLASH--NO! DON'T DO IT! IF YOU PRESS DOWN THE PLUNGER-- NEITHER OF US WILL EVER BE ABLE TO LEAVE THIS PLACE!

THERE IS THE RING OF TRUTH IN **THE SHADE'S** ALMOST HYSTERICAL VOICE...

HERE, GIVE IT BACK TO ME AND I'LL SET YOU FREE! YOU JUST DON'T REALIZE WHAT TERRIBLE FORCES OF DARKNESS YOU'RE TAMPERING WITH!

IF **THE SHADE** CAN WORK THE CANE-- WHY CAN'T I? SURELY THE CANE DOESN'T KNOW WHO'S USING IT! WHAT GIVES **THE SHADE** HIS POWER OVER IT?

FOR A LONG MOMENT, THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER** STANDS IMMOBILE. THEN WITH A GRIN HE BENDS FORWARD AND WITH HIS HANDS BLURRING IN SUPER-SPEED, HE STRIPS OFF **THE SHADE'S** GLOVES!...

OF COURSE! IT HAS TO BE YOUR GLOVES! THEY MUST BE TREATED IN SOME MANNER THAT PROTECTS YOU FROM THE AWESOME POWERS CONTAINED IN YOUR WALKING STICK!

NEXT MOMENT, **FLASH** PRESSES THE CANE PLUNGER--AND FREES **THE SHADE** AND HIMSELF-- TOGETHER WITH **THE SHADE'S** LOOT--FROM THE DARK DIMENSION...

YOUR NEXT STOP, **SHADE**-- IS POLICE HEADQUARTERS!

24

SIMULTANEOUSLY, THE LIFE-FORCE THAT WAS IN THE COAL-MAN, THE BLACK ARMOR, THE 8-BALLS, AND THE INK DIES OUT...

AFTER LEAVING HIS PRISONER WITH THE POLICE OF ***EARTH-1***, ***FLASH*** RACES INTO ***EARTH-2*** WHERE...

I'M GOING TO LEAVE HIS CANE WITH YOU, JAY! WITH ***THE SHADE*** IN AN ***EARTH-1*** JAIL AND HIS CANE IN ***EARTH-2***, WE'LL BE SAFE FOR SOME TIME TO COME!

I NEVER DOUBTED FOR A MOMENT YOU'D SUCCEED, ***FLASH!***

ONE THING REMAINS TO BE DONE! ***FLASH*** RETURNS IRIS' "STOLEN" ENGAGEMENT RING TO HER SO THAT LATER, WHEN HE VISITS HER AS ***BARRY ALLEN***...

WHEN WE'RE MARRIED, BARRY-- YOU JUST ***HAVE*** TO ASK ***THE FLASH*** TO BE YOUR BEST MAN AFTER ALL HE'S DONE FOR US!

YES, DEAR!

I'LL FACE ***THAT*** PROBLEM WHEN I COME TO IT!

The End

25

The Flash

SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS

The FLASH

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

MAY
NO. 170

UNBELIEVABLE!

"The See-Nothing Spells of Abra Kadabra!"

THINGS SURE ARE QUIET IN TOWN TONIGHT! MIGHT AS WELL TURN IN!

INFANTINO + ANDERSON

STORY BY JOHN BROOME

The FLASH

ART BY CARMINE INFANTINO & SID GREENE

SPEAK NO EVIL! SEE NO EVIL! HEAR NO EVIL!

The SEE-NOTHING SPELLS OF ABRA KADABRA!

SUCH IS THE TERRIBLE FATE THAT FALLS UPON THE **FASTEST MAN ON EARTH!** HE CANNOT **SEE** ANY CROOKS! HE CANNOT EVEN **HEAR** THEM! AND EVEN IF HE SHOULD ARREST THEM, HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO **TESTIFY** AGAINST THEM! **FLASH'S** VALUE AS A SUPER-HERO HAS BECOME -- **NIL!**

÷GASP÷ SOMEONE I CAN'T SEE -- CONSTRICTING MY UNIFORM -- CRUSHING ME TO DEATH!

THE NAME'S *ABRA KADABRA*, *FLASH* -- BUT YOU CAN'T SEE OR EVEN HEAR ME!

AS THE CURTAIN GOES DOWN ON THE *CENTRAL CITY CIVIC CENTER* PRODUCTION OF "*A CONNECTICUT YANKEE IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT*"...

HURRY, BARRY! I WANT TO SEE MY OLD CLASSMATE, *MARGOT TYLER*, WHO PLAYED THE ROLE OF *ALISANDE*!

I'M M-MOVING AS FAST AS I CAN, DEAR...

BARRY (*FLASH*) ALLEN AND HIS WIFE IRIS MAKE THEIR WAY BACKSTAGE WHERE...

IRIS-- *DARLING*!

MARGOT-- *HONEY*!

THERE'S THE **REAL** STAR OF THIS SHOW, THE MAN WHO PLAYED ***MERLIN THE MAGICIAN***! HIS MAGIC FEATS WERE ***SPECTACULAR***--!

AFTER BEING INTRODUCED TO MARGOT TYLER, BARRY FINDS HIMSELF IN TURN SHAKING HANDS WITH...

--JOHN CARDINE!

CONGRATULATIONS, MR. CARDINE, ON A SUPERB PERFORMANCE! I HOPE YOUR SHOW HAS A LONG RUN!

MOMENTS LATER, A VOICE BOOMS LOUD IN BARRY ALLEN'S EARS...

I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU HERE, **FLASH**! BUT DON'T WORRY-- I WON'T TELL THE WORLD YOU'RE **BARRY ALLEN**-- **NOT YET**!

HUH? HE SAYS HE WON'T TELL THE WORLD -- BUT HE'S BELLOWING THE NEWS ALL OVER THE PLACE!

WHY ISN'T EVERYBODY TURNING TO STARE AT ME? THAT VOICE WAS CERTAINLY ***LOUD AND CLEAR*** ENOUGH! WHO IN THIS ROOM SPOKE THOSE WORDS ANYWAY?

EVIDENTLY, I WAS THE ***ONLY ONE*** WHO HEARD THAT VOICE! IT'S LIKE SHEER MAGIC--*eh*? COULD "***MERLIN***" HAVE PULLED THAT TRICK ON ME?

2

THE WAY "MERLIN"--JOHN CARDINE--DID THOSE MAGIC STUNTS ON STAGE--AS IF THEY WERE **REAL!** THE ONLY MAN I KNOW WHO CAN REALLY DO SUCH THINGS IS-- **ABRA KADABRA!** AND **HE'S** IN A **64th CENTURY PRISON!**

BARRY, MARGOT AND I ARE GOING TO **DARSI'S** FOR AN AFTER-THEATRE SNACK AND SOME GIRL TALK! I WOULDN'T MIND IF YOU BEGGED OFF--

THANKS, HONEY! YOU'RE AN UNDER-STANDING WIFE! I'LL HEAD ON HOME...

I COULDN'T ASK FOR A BETTER BREAK-- OR EXCUSE-- TO GET AWAY FROM IRIS...

SOON IN A DARKENED STAGE ALLEY, THE POLICE DEPARTMENT SCIENTIST LIFTS A RING FROM HIS POCKET-- TOUCHES A SECRET SPRING...

WHICH EJECTS A **FLASHY** UNIFORM THAT EXPANDS ON CONTACT WITH THE AIR...

NOW TO FOLLOW JOHN CARDINE-- AT INVISIBLE VIBRATIONAL SPEED.. BE-FORE I MOVE IN TO ASK MY QUESTIONS!

eh? HE'S GOING INTO **CERAMICS CASTLE**-- AFTER CLOSING HOURS! WHY'S HE SO INTERESTED IN THE SPECIAL DIS-PLAY OF RARE CERAMICS IN THERE?

CERAMICS CASTLE

I WAS ONLY FOOTSTEPS BEHIND CARDINE-- AND NO SIGN OF HIM!? BUT CO-INCIDENTALLY ENOUGH--THERE'S A GANG OF CROOKS HERE-- HELPING THEM-SELVES TO THOSE PRICE-LESS CERAMICS!

3

I MAY NOT HAVE ANY-THING TANGIBLE ON CARDINE--BUT I'VE SURE CAUGHT THESE CROOKS WITH THE GOODS!

SWOTT!

I HEARD YOU'RE FASTER THAN A BULLET, *FLASH!* BUT WHAT ABOUT *TWO BULLETS*--ZEROING IN ON YOUR HEAD FROM TWO DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS!

BLAMM!

BLAMM!

I'LL *DUCK* THAT PROBLEM-!

FLONK

LOOKS LIKE I GOT *YOU* FIRST-- WITH A FIST!

NOW TO WRAP THIS UP BY WHIPPING MY AIR-SPINNING CROOK INTO THE OTHERS!

THWAKK

WHUPP!

ZONNK

SOON AFTERWARD AT A POLICE PRECINCT STATION...

IN YOU GO!

FLASH! I WAS HOPING I'D SEE YOU HERE!

WHO HE?

AS THE OWNER OF CERAMICS CASTLE, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR SAVING THOSE DISPLAY TREASURES-- AND GIVE YOU THIS MEDALLION AS A REWARD!

HOW'D YOU LEARN SO QUICKLY WHAT I'D DONE? AND--HOLD IT, I DON'T ACCEPT REWARDS--

FOR A SINGLE MOMENT, THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER DROPS HIS EYES TO THE MEDALLION ON HIS PALM...

WHAT AN ODD DEVICE!

OH-OH! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT, FLASH! YOU TOOK THE BAIT-- AND ARE HOOKED!

BUT WHEN HE SEEKS TO RETURN THE REWARD...

HERE, TAKE IT BACK AND--eh? WHERE'D HE GO? I'LL LEAVE IT AT THE STATION-HOUSE FOR HIM TO RE-COVER...

AS THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER ENTERS THE POLICE STATION...

LOOKS LIKE YOU HAD A BUSY NIGHT, FLASH! WHAT'S THE CHARGE AGAINST THESE GUYS?

CH-CHARGE?! WHY--I DON'T KNOW! I CAN'T IMAGINE WHY I BROUGHT THEM IN!

S

I DON'T KNOW OF ANY HARM THEY'VE DONE! WHY, THEY DON'T EVEN LOOK LIKE CRIMINALS!

THEM'S MIGHTY KIND WORDS, ***FLASH!*** NOW-- IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US--WE GOTTA GET GOIN'...

MY APOLOGIES, GENTLEMEN, FOR INCONVENIENCING YOU--

THAT'S OKAY, ***FLASH!*** AND IN TURN, WE'LL BRING NO CHARGES AGAINST ***YOU*** FOR FALSE ARREST!

WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND HERE?!

AS A PUZZLED ***FLASH*** LEAVES THE PRECINCT HOUSE...

WE CAME HERE TOO LATE! ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS WAIT FOR OUR OPPORTUNITY TO HELP ***FLASH!***

TO REPEAT-- ***WHO HE?***

I JUST DON'T UNDER-STAND IT! I COULD SEE NOTHING WRONG WITH THOSE MEN...

YOU SAY YOU WANT MORE FOR YOUR MONEY? TELL YOU WHAT WE'RE GONNA DO! HERE ARE TWO MORE MYSTERY MEN TO WONDER ABOUT!

YOU THINK ***FLASH*** HAS TROUBLES? HOW ABOUT ***ARTEMUS JACKSON***, WHO IS BEING HELD UP AT GUN-POINT AT THIS VERY MOMENT?...

OKAY, LET'S HAVE YOUR WALLET, CHUM!

NOT NOW, I WON'T! HERE COMES ***THE FLASH!***

AWW, NOT ***THAT*** OLD CHESTNUT! ***THE FLASH*** AIN'T NOWHERE NEAR HERE!

BETTER HAND OVER THAT WALLET WHILE YOU'RE STILL ALIVE...

OKAY-- BUT YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT! ***FLASH*** IS RIGHT BEHIND YOU NOW!

UH-HUH! ***SURE*** HE IS! OH, BROTHERRR-- WHAT SOME GUYS WON'T DO TO SAVE A BUCK!

OVER A HUNDRED SMACKERS! NOT BAD--

PSST! FLASH-- OVER HERE! LOOK WHAT'S GOING ON!

CUT IT OUT, WILL YA!

THANKS FOR NOTHING, FLASH!

ULP! HE'S REALLY HERE!

FLASH, WOULD YOU BELIEVE I WAS CHECKIN' SERIAL NUMBERS TO SEE IF THIS MAN WON A NEWSPAPER CONTEST? Heh! Heh!

WOULD YOU BELIEVE-- I BET HIM HE DIDN'T HAVE A FIVE-DOLLAR BILL IN HIS WALLET? Heh! Heh!

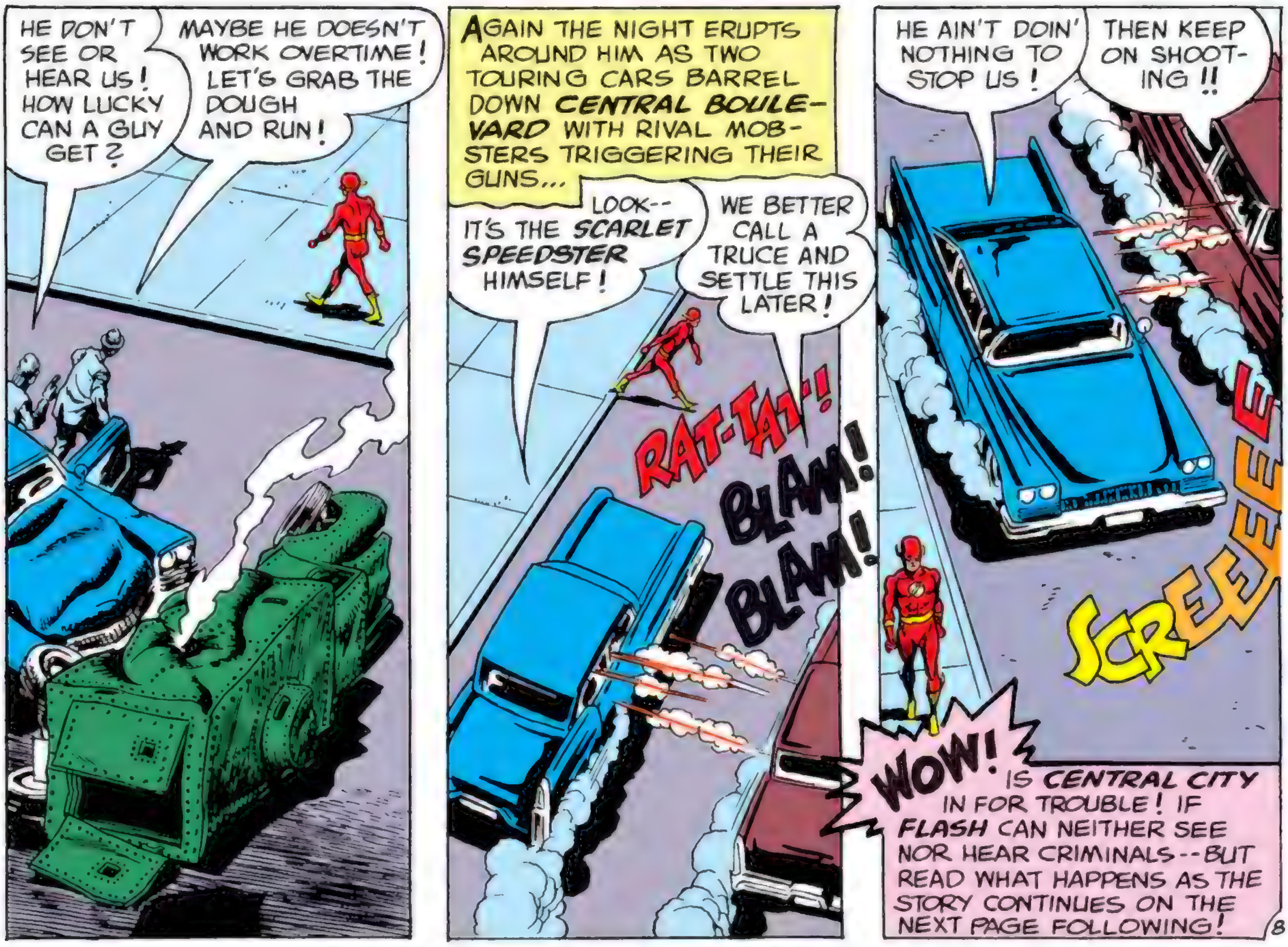
WOULD YOU BELIEVE-- HUH? HE WALKED RIGHT PAST ME--AS IF HE DIDN'T EVEN SEE ME!

I--I'D REPORT THIS TO THE POLICE-- IF I THOUGHT THEY'D BELIEVE ME!

THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER MOVES ON--TOWARD AN ARMORED CAR SMASH-UP...

KAA-RASSSHHHHH

YAAAGGHH! IT'S THE FLASH! WHATTA TIME WE PICKED TO PULL THIS ARMORED CAR JOB!


HE DON'T SEE OR HEAR US! HOW LUCKY CAN A GUY GET?
MAYBE HE DOESN'T WORK OVERTIME! LET'S GRAB THE DOUGH AND RUN!
AGAIN THE NIGHT ERUPTS AROUND HIM AS TWO TOURING CARS BARREL DOWN CENTRAL BOULEVARD WITH RIVAL MOBSTERS TRIGGERING THEIR GUNS...
LOOK-- IT'S THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER HIMSELF!
WE BETTER CALL A TRUCE AND SETTLE THIS LATER!
RAT-TAT-!
BLAM! BLAM!
HE AIN'T DOIN' NOTHING TO STOP US!
THEN KEEP ON SHOOTING!!
SCREEEE
WOW! IS CENTRAL CITY IN FOR TROUBLE! IF FLASH CAN NEITHER SEE NOR HEAR CRIMINALS--BUT READ WHAT HAPPENS AS THE STORY CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE FOLLOWING!
8

The FLASH

SEE-NOTHING SPELLS of ABRA KADABRA -- PART 2

LIKE A MAN BEREFT OF HIS SENSES, THE **FASTEST MAN ON EARTH** RACES ALONG **CENTRAL BOULEVARD!** HE HEARS NOTHING EXCEPT HIS OWN VOICE! THE CHATTER OF SUBMACHINE-GUNS--THE RAUCOUS SHOUTS OF ROBBERS--THE CRIES OF HELPLESS VICTIMS--ALL GO UNHEEDED!

THINGS SURE ARE QUIET IN TOWN TONIGHT! I MIGHT AS WELL TURN IN!

RAT-TAT!

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

HELP!

HARD ON HIS HEELS COME THE THREE STRANGERS WHO HAVE TRAILED HIM ALL THE WAY FROM THE POLICE STATION...

THIS IS WORSE THAN WE THOUGHT!

MAYBE WE BETTER INTERFERE TO STOP THIS WAVE OF LAWLESSNESS!

NO! WE DON'T DARE TAKE A HAND YET! WE MUST WAIT UNTIL WE GET ***FLASH*** ALONE IN PRIVATE!

JEWELRY

CRASH!

OTHER EYES ARE ALSO TELEVIEWING THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER** BYPASS CRIME AFTER CRIME AS MOCKING LAUGHTER RISES INTO THE AIR...

HA! HA! HA! MY SCHEME IS WORKING PERFECTLY!

NOW TO CHANGE FROM THIS ASSUMED IDENTITY BACK TO MY REAL SELF!

WITH MY **CONTROL PACK** WHICH ENABLES ME TO SWITCH PERSONALITIES-- I CHANGE FROM MY APPEARANCE AS THE **CERAMICS CASTLE** OWNER...

...TO THE FACE OF ACTOR JOHN CARDINE, WHICH IN TURN WAS A DISGUISE FOR MY REAL SELF...

ABRA KADABRA, CRIMINAL GENIUS OF THE 64th CENTURY WHOSE FUTURE SCIENCE ENABLES ME TO FUNCTION IN THIS 20th CENTURY AS A GREAT MAGICIAN!

"JUST A LITTLE WHILE 'AGO'-- I WAS IN THE 64th CENTURY, WHERE I HAD BEEN IMPRISONED AFTER MY CAPTURE BY **THE FLASH** ...

JUST MY MISERABLE LUCK! I'VE BEEN GIVEN AN **ESCAPE-PROOF ROBOT** AS A CELLMATE! **ESCAPE-PROOFERS** CAN'T BE BRIBED; THEY SOUND AN ALARM IF AN ESCAPE ATTEMPT IS MADE-- THEY'RE FOOLPROOF!

I AM PROGRAMMED TO ASSIST AND ENTERTAIN YOU IN ANY MANNER SHORT OF ACTUAL ESCAPE!

OKAY, HOW ABOUT A **FILE**?

A FILE IS FORBIDDEN! IT COULD BE USED TO SAW THROUGH CELL BARS!

HOW ABOUT A CORNED BEEF ON RYE AN' A BOTTLE OF ICE COLEY?

REQUEST GRANTED!

IF YOU COULD ONLY COOK!

I AM PROGRAMMED TO SERVE MORE THAN FIFTY HOT MEALS!

WHY MUST YOU ANSWER EVERY STATEMENT I MAKE? I'D BE BETTER OFF IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO **SEE** OR **HEAR** YOU--YEAH, OR **SPEAK** TO YOU, EITHER!

REQUEST DENIED!

HEY, I'M GETTING AN IDEA!

IDEAS ARE NOT FORBIDDEN!

I'LL NEED A LENGTH OF I-34 WIRE, TWO SOLAR ENERGY CELLS, SOME MINI-COBALT LENSES...

WHY DO YOU WANT THESE ITEMS?

I'M GOING TO MAKE MYSELF AN EDUCATIONAL TOY TO PASS THE TIME!

IT HAS THERAPEUTIC VALUE! PERMISSION GRANTED!

NEVER MIND THE SMALL TALK! JUST GRIND OUT WHAT I NEED!

"FOR TWO DAYS I WORKED WITHOUT SLEEP, MUCH TO THE ANNOYANCE OF MY ROBOT-CELLMATE GUARD..."

YOU MUST SLEEP! SLEEP OR I SHALL NOTIFY THE AUTHORITIES!

ALL RIGHT, BLABBER-MOUTH! SEE--I'M ASLEEP ALREADY!

NO MAN CAN SPEAK WHILE HE'S ASLEEP!

SO I'M TALKING IN MY SLEEP, BONE-HEAD!

MY HEAD IS MADE OF METAL, NOT BONE!

WHAT DID I EVER **DO** TO DESERVE THIS? EVEN **THE FLASH** IS PREFERABLE TO THIS CORRUGATED CONSCIENCE MY JAILERS INFLICTED ME WITH! BUT I'LL BE OUT OF HERE SOON--WITH THE AID OF THE **PSYCHONIZER** I'M SECRETLY MAKING!

"UNTIL THE DAY CAME WHEN.."

SEE MY PRETTY TOY? IT WORKS LIKE AN ANESTHETIC--APPLIED TO CERTAIN PORTIONS OF THE BRAIN--EVEN **YOUR** BRAIN, BONE-HEAD--SO THAT ANYONE WHO GAZES ON IT CAN **SEE NO EVIL, HEAR NO EVIL, SPEAK NO EVIL!**

I CANNOT SEE--HEAR--SPEAK EVIL!

CHECK! YOU DON'T SEE ME! NOR WILL ANYONE ELSE WHEN I WALK OUT OF THIS PRISON--BECAUSE I AM UTTERLY AND TOTALLY **EVIL!**

"I BURNED A HOLE IN THE WALL OF MY CELL--AND CALMLY STRODE RIGHT OUT OF THAT PLACE..."

FAREWELL, GUARDS! I'M OFF FOR THE 20th CENTURY TO SETTLE MY SCORE WITH **THE FLASH**--AND BE SET FOR LIFE!

"WITH THAT SORDID EXPERIENCE BEHIND ME, I FLED THROUGH TIME TO THE PRESENT, EAGER TO INFLICT MY NEW-FOUND POWER AGAINST MY NEMESIS, ***THE FLASH...***"

I'LL CHECK UP ON ***FLASH'S*** RECENT ACTIVITIES SO I CAN GET IN TOUCH WITH HIM AND-- *HELLO!* WHAT'S THIS? THEY'RE CASTING A CIVIC CENTER PRODUCTION OF "***A CONNECTICUT YANKEE***"!

"AND THIS VERY NIGHT, MY INVENTIVE GENIUS PAID OFF!..."

SO YOUR NAME IS BARRY ALLEN! BUT ACCORDING TO MY ***DETECTIRING*** -- IT'S ALSO ***THE FLASH!***

SET M

WHAT A TREMENDOUS ***MERLIN*** I WOULD MAKE WITH MY "MAGIC" POWERS! AND WHY NOT? TO HEAR THE ROUSING SALVOS OF APPLAUSE, TO SEE MY NAME IN NEWSPAPER HEADLINES AND ON THEATER MARQUEES-- *AHHH*, THAT WOULD BE LIVING!

HA! HA! ***BARRY ALLEN-FLASH*** SURE WAS STARTLED WHEN I TELEPATHICALLY REVEALED HIS SECRET IDENTITY! I DELIBERATELY DID THAT TO GET HIM TO FOLLOW ME! WHEN I NEARED THE ***CERAMICS CASTLE*** AND SENSED ITS BEING ROBBED I WENT IN, KNOWING ***FLASH*** WOULD FOLLOW ME AND GRAB THOSE CROOKS!

SOONER OR LATER I'M BOUND TO RUN INTO ***FLASH!*** THIS SPECIAL ***DETECTIRING*** WILL ALERT ME TO HIS PRESENCE WHENEVER HE COMES WITHIN FIFTY YARDS OF ME!

THAT GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO POSE AS THE OWNER OF THE ***CERAMICS CASTLE*** AND HAND ***FLASH*** THE ***PSYCHONIZER*** IN THE SHAPE OF A MEDALLION! NOW ***FLASH*** CAN ***SEE NO EVIL*** -- ***HEAR NO EVIL*** -- AND ***SPEAK NO EVIL!***

HA! HA! HA!

12

IT WAS DEMONSTRATED HE COULD SPEAK NO EVIL BY HIS INABILITY TO TESTIFY AGAINST THOSE CERAMICS CROOKS! HE COULD ***SEE NOTHING*** OF THE ROBBERS AND GANGSTERS--NOR EVEN HEAR THEIR VOICES AND GUNSHOTS!

AND THE BEST PART OF ALL THIS IS--I AM THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN REMOVE THIS ***PSYCHONIC*** INFLUENCE FROM ***FLASH!*** WITHOUT MY HELP--WHICH HE'LL ***NEVER*** GET--HE'S DOOMED TO REMAIN THAT WAY THE REST OF HIS LIFE!

SHORTLY, AS ***FLASH*** RETURNS TO BARRY ALLEN'S HOME...

÷Whewww÷ THIS HAS BEEN A DAY OF DAYS! JOHN CARDINE KNOWS MY SECRET IDENTITY! I BROUGHT FOUR MEN TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS WITHOUT KNOWING WHY! AND NOW..

I WAS ABOUT TO GO INTO THE HOME WHERE I LIVE AS BARRY ALLEN WITH MY WIFE IRIS--STILL DRESSED AS ***THE FLASH!*** SUPPOSE I WALKED IN AND IRIS WERE THERE! THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN AN EYE-OPENER FOR HER!

AS BARRY OPENS HIS HOUSE DOOR--HIS EYES GROW WIDE IN SHEER AMAZEMENT!...

I--MUST--BE--SEEING--THINGS!

NEXT MOMENT, ANOTHER SECRET SPRING IS PRESSED--AND ***FLASH'S*** UNIFORM SHRINKS AND IS DRAWN BACK INTO THE RING...

WHAT'S THIS? ***ANOTHER*** COMPLICATION--***ANOTHER*** TWIST--***ANOTHER*** FASCINATING FACET TO THIS TANTALIZING TALE? GET SET FOR A THRILL AS YOU ARE ABOUT TO MEET..

DOCTOR FATE! FLASH OF EARTH-TWO! DOCTOR MID-NITE! WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

WE HAD TO SEE YOU ALONE, BARRY! SOMETHING TERRIBLE IS HAPPENING ON YOUR EARTH!

YES, THESE ARE A TRIO OF SUPER-HEROES FROM THAT *OTHER EARTH* WHICH IS A PARALLEL OF OUR OWN! ON THEIR WORLD THEY TRACK DOWN CRIME AND EVIL JUST AS THE *SCARLET SPEEDSTER* DOES ON *EARTH-ONE!...*

BUT BEFORE WE GO INTO THAT, *FLASH*-- WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP ALL THOSE CRIMES BEING COMMITTED TONIGHT RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE?

CRIMES? WHAT CRIMES? IT WAS A REAL QUIET NIGHT IN *CENTRAL CITY!*

Hmmm! THEN LET ME TELL YOU WHAT YOU OVERLOOKED...

WHEN *DR. MID-NITE* RELATES WHAT TOOK PLACE AFTER *FLASH* LEFT THE POLICE STATION...

AND YOU SAY ALL THOSE THINGS HAPPENED-- WITHOUT MY BEING AWARE OF IT?!

THE ANSWER MUST TIE IN WITH *WHY* WE'RE HERE ON *EARTH-ONE!* LISTEN...

"SOME TIME BACK, IN THE *SALEM TOWER* WHICH IS MY MAGICAL LOOKOUT POST..."

INCREDIBLE! MY MAGIC CRYSTAL HAS PICKED UP AN EVIL EMANATION EXTENDING THROUGH *ALL SPACE AND TIME!*

14

"WITH THE AID OF THE SUPERNAL WISDOM AND EXTRATERRESTRIAL KNOWLEDGE WHICH WAS GIVEN TO ME BY **NABU THE WISE**, I TRACKED DOWN THAT EVIL-FILLED ENERGY..."

FAR IN THE FUTURE IT WAS BORN! THROUGH TIME AND SPACE IT HAS COME! IT TARRIES NOW IN **CENTRAL CITY** ON **EARTH-ONE**!--BUT **THAT** IS WHERE **FLASH** LIVES!

"MY NEXT MOVE WAS TO PAY A VISIT TO JAY GARRICK--**THE FLASH** OF MY WORLD, WHERE TO MY SURPRISE AND DELIGHT I FOUND..."

DOCTOR MID-NITE! HOW GOOD TO FIND YOU HERE TOO! THIS WILL INTEREST YOU, AS WELL AS **FLASH!**

"WHEN I TOLD OF MY DISCOVERY..."

YOU'RE RIGHT, **DOCTOR FATE!** WE MUST ALERT **FLASH OF EARTH-ONE** TO THIS THREAT! BUT WE MUST PROCEED CAREFULLY--SAY, IN OUR **CIVILIAN IDENTITIES**--TO AVOID POSSIBLE RECOGNITION AND DETECTION BY THE UNKNOWN EVIL MENACE...

TO PLAY IT EVEN SAFER, WE'LL CONTACT **FLASH** IN COMPLETE SECRECY!

HOLD ON! I'M COMING WITH YOU! LAST TIME I SAW **FLASH** HE TALKED ME OUT OF JOINING HIM ON A CASE!

"MOMENTS LATER WE WERE ON OUR WAY TO **EARTH-ONE**..."

AS **DOCTOR FATE** CONCLUDES HIS TALE...

FROM WHAT YOU'VE TOLD ME AND FROM WHAT'S ALREADY HAPPENED, I CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT **ABRA KADABRA** ESCAPED HIS 64th CENTURY JAIL AND HAS RETURNED TO **CENTRAL CITY!** MOREOVER--HE'S PUT A **MAGIC** SPELL ON ME!

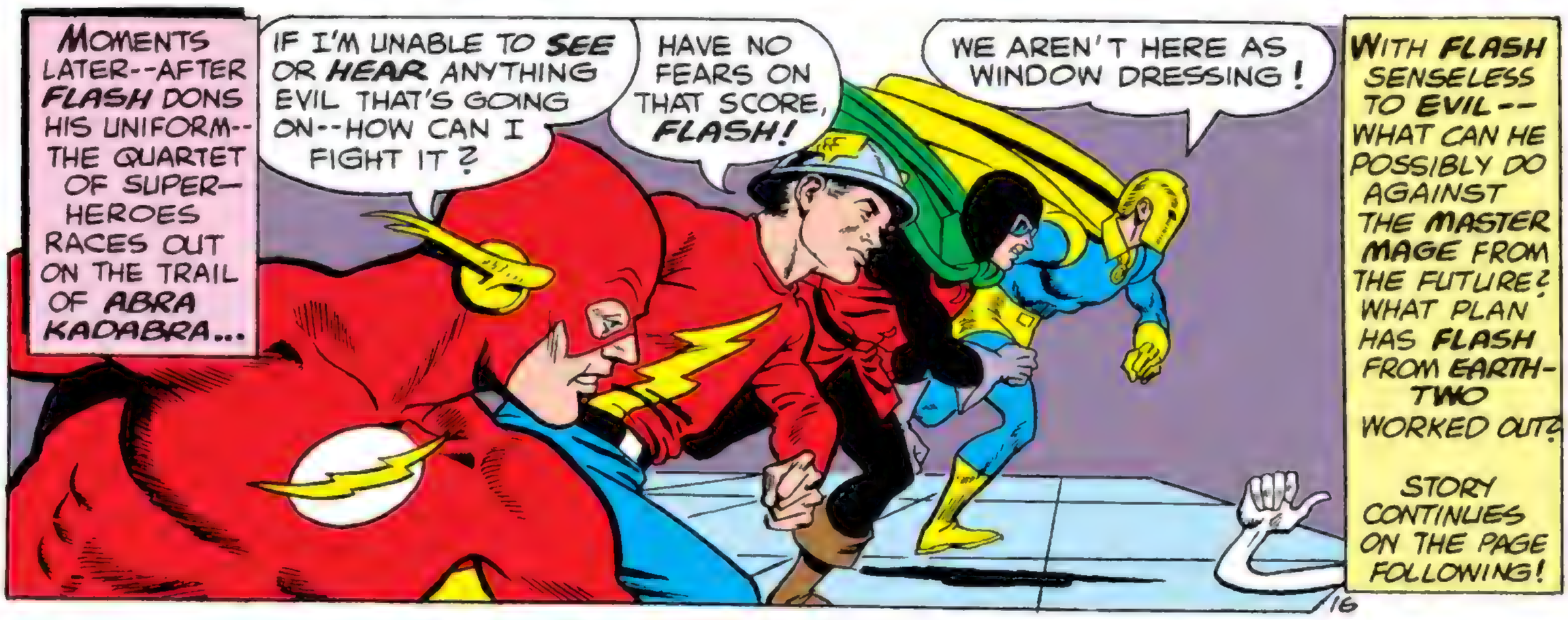
MAGIC SPELL? THAT'S **MY** DEPARTMENT! I'LL REMOVE IT...

eh? THE SPELL IS TOO POWERFUL FOR ME TO REMOVE! SOME FORCE BEYOND EVEN MY POWERS IS AT WORK HERE! BUT ONE THING I **CAN** DO...

WHAT'S THAT, **DOCTOR FATE?**

15

I CAN REVEAL ABRA KADABRA'S TARGET FOR TONIGHT!
LOOK--ALREADY THIEVES ARE THERE-- STEALING THOSE GOLD ARTIFACTS!
I--I CAN'T SEE A THING!
I'M BEGINNING TO GET AN IDEA--A PLAN OF ACTION!


MOMENTS LATER--AFTER FLASH DONS HIS UNIFORM-- THE QUARTET OF SUPER-HEROES RACES OUT ON THE TRAIL OF ABRA KADABRA...
IF I'M UNABLE TO SEE OR HEAR ANYTHING EVIL THAT'S GOING ON--HOW CAN I FIGHT IT?
HAVE NO FEARS ON THAT SCORE, FLASH!
WE AREN'T HERE AS WINDOW DRESSING!
WITH FLASH SENSELESS TO EVIL-- WHAT CAN HE POSSIBLY DO AGAINST THE MASTER MAGE FROM THE FUTURE? WHAT PLAN HAS FLASH FROM EARTH-TWO WORKED OUT?
STORY CONTINUES ON THE PAGE FOLLOWING!
16

The FLASH

SEE-NOTHING SPELLS OF ABRA KADABRA--

PART 3

AS THE COMBINED SUPER-HEROES FROM TWO EARTHS THUNDER INTO THE ROOM WITH THE GOLDEN LOOT, ONLY **FLASH OF EARTH-ONE** IS VISIBLE! THE OTHER **FLASH** VIBRATES INVISIBLY AS A MANTLE OF MAGIC CONCEALS **DOCTORS FATE** AND **MID-NITE**...

HOLD IT-- HERE COMES **THE FLASH!**

Ahhh, DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM! ACCORDIN' TO THE GRAPEVINE, HE'S ALL WASHED UP!

I **STILL** DON'T SEE ANYONE OR HEAR ANYTHING!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEE ANY-BODY, **FLASH!** I'LL BE YOUR GUIDE!

FLASH MAY BE ALL WASHED UP-- BUT LET'S PUT HIM THROUGH THE RINGER-- WITH BULLETS-- JUST TO MAKE SURE!

17

WE'LL ALL FIRE TOGETHER-- ON TARGET!

HERE'S WHERE I PITCH IN--WITH A BLACKOUT BOMB!

HUH? WHERE'D THAT DARKNESS COME FROM?

ONLY FLASH COULD HAVE DONE IT! THERE'S NOBODY ELSE AROUND!

HE AIN'T EVEN LOOKIN' AT US-- AWWPPP!

--AN' HE HIT US DEAD CENTER-- GLMPP!

I CAN'T SEE OR HEAR-- BUT I CAN FEEL! I JUST SOCKED SOMETHING!

TO ONE SIDE OF THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER, DOCTOR FATE DOES HIS BIT...

÷ULP!÷ THE GOLDEN STATUES-- COMIN' ALIVE--!

SOME-THIN' SCREWY GOIN' ON AROUND HERE! LET'S BEAT IT!

18

BUT AS THE TERRIFIED THIEVES TRY TO FLEE...

YIII! WE'RE RUNNING ON AIR--AND GOIN' NO PLACE!

EVEN WORSE-- THE STATUES ARE GANGIN' UP ON US!

IN THE DARKEST SHADOWS, ABRA KADABRA HAS STOOD TRANSFIXED BY AMAZEMENT AS...

AMAZING! FLASH SEEMS TO HAVE DEVELOPED REMARKABLE NEW POWERS SINCE I PUT THAT SPELL ON HIM!

IT WAS BAD ENOUGH TO ARRIVE HERE AND FIND OTHER CROOKS STEALING THE GOLD I HAD MARKED AS MY OWN--SINCE IN MY 64th CENTURY THERE IS NO GOLD, IT ALL HAVING BEEN DESTROYED IN AN INTERPLANETARY WAR, MAKING GOLD PRICELESS-- BUT NOW TO FIND FLASH LIKE THIS IS TOO MUCH!

MY CYROTUBER AFFECTS THE NERVES OF THE HUMAN BODY--ENABLING ME TO CONTROL ANYONE IT'S FIRED AT!

THIS IS MOST ASTOUNDING! FLASH SEEMS MORE SUPER THAN EVER! COULD I HAVE UNWITTINGLY GIVEN HIM THESE EXTRA POWERS?

TO PLAY IT SAFE--I'LL CAUSE THE FLOOR TO CHANGE ITS STRUCTURE--FASHION WOODEN HANDS TO GRIP AND HOLD HIM TIGHT--WHILE I MAKE OFF WITH THE GOLD THAT WILL MAKE ME THE WEALTHIEST MAN IN THE 64th CENTURY!

19

MOMENTS LATER, THE WOODEN HANDS LIFT *FLASH*-- SWING HIM 'ROUND AND 'ROUND...

eh? WHAT'S *THIS?* HOW CAN MY WOODEN HANDS ACT ON THEIR OWN?

THE ANSWER IS *MAGIC À LA DR. FATE*--BUT *ABRA KADABRA* DOESN'T KNOW THAT--AND NOW..

LIKE A LIVING BULLET THOSE HANDS HURL *THE FLASH*-- STRAIGHT ON TARGET...

A VICTIM OF MY OWN WOODEN HANDS-- *GNNGGG!!*

I'LL CUSHION THE BLOW FOR *FLASH* SO HE DOESN'T FEEL A THING!

ZWOPP!

DRIVEN BACK INTO THE VERY GOLDEN HOARD HE SEEKS TO STEAL, THE *MASTER OF MAGIC* SNARLS IN FURY...

THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER! BY REMOVING YOUR ABILITY TO SEE, HEAR AND SPEAK EVIL--I'VE *INCREASED* YOUR POWERS! BUT YOU'RE STILL NO MATCH FOR ME, *FLASH!*

I'M THE GREATEST MAGICIAN OF ALL TIME AND SPACE--

STRANGE! MY MAGIC DOESN'T STOP *THE FLASH!*

HA! HA! THAT STOPS YOU-- *DEAD!*

FLASH IS STILL UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF MY *CYROTUBER, DOCTOR FATE!* HE WON'T BE HARMED!

I WASN'T ABLE TO STOP HIS SPINNING--BUT I CAN DO SOMETHING ELSE TO HELP HIM...

20

AS THE WONDER WIZARD HURLS HIS NECROMANTIC LIGHTNINGS...

FANTASTIC! FLASH HAS DIVIDED HIMSELF INTO MULTIPLE FLASHES-- TOO MANY EVEN FOR ME TO HANDLE! I-- I'VE GOT TO-- TO REMOVE THE SPELL I PUT ON HIM!

MY PLAN TO HELP FLASH-- BUT MAKE IT SEEM HE WAS DOING ALL THOSE SUPER-STUNTS UNDER HIS OWN POWER-- IS PAYING OFF!

YES, YOU SAID WE HAD TO TRICK ABRA KADABRA INTO REMOVING THAT SPELL ON FLASH-- AND HE DID!

FROM NOW ON-- WE'LL LET FLASH HANDLE ABRA KADABRA HIS OWN WAY!

THE NEXT MOMENT...

ABRA KADABRA! NOW THAT I CAN SEE YOU--

SEEING ISN'T ENOUGH, MY FLASHY FOE!

HA! YOU'RE TOO FAST FOR YOUR OWN GOOD, FLASH! YOU RAN RIGHT PAST ME--

IN THE WAKE OF THE SUPER-SPEEDSTER COME THE KAYOED THIEVES...

I WASN'T AIMING MYSELF AT YOU--I WAS AIMING THOSE FELLOW TRAVELERS!

AWWPPFF!!

ZWUMP!

THE MAGICIAN FROM THE FUTURE MAY BE DOWN--BUT HE ISN'T OUT...

HOW DOES **THIS** GRAB YOU, ***FLASH?***

;GASP; HE'S--CONSTRICTING MY UNIFORM--MAKING IT SMALLER AND TIGHTER--CRUSHING ME TO DEATH!

HIS BODY CAUGHT AS IF IN THE COILS OF A BOA CONSTRICTOR, THE ***FASTEST MAN ON EARTH-ONE*** TAKES THE ONE DESPERATE CHANCE FOR VICTORY...

GOT TO VIBRATE FAST ENOUGH TO INVISIBLY RUN OUT FROM UNDER MY UNIFORM--OVERCOME ***ABRA KADABRA*** BEFORE HE NOTICES I'M OUTSIDE THE UNIFORM...

ZOKK

DID IT--WITH A ***FLASH*** FIST FLUSH ON THE JAW!

WHEN I KNOCKED HIM OUT--HIS MAGIC STOPPED! MY UNIFORM RETURNED TO ITS RIGHT SIZE--ENABLING ME TO PUT IT BACK ON!

A QUARTET OF JUBILANT SUPER-HEROES STANDS OVER THE INERT EVIL-DOER..

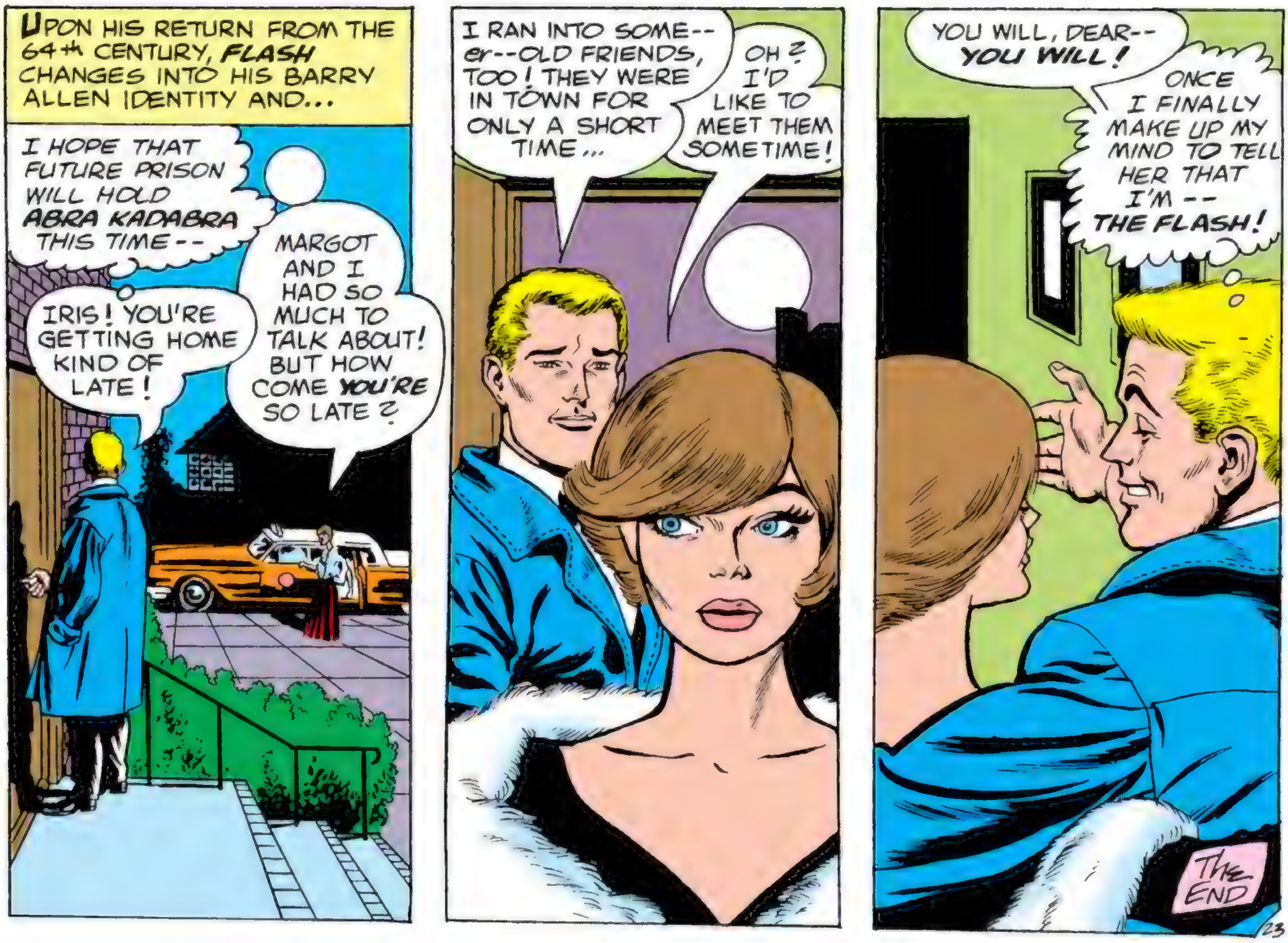
I'M STILL PUZZLED WHY MY COUNTER MAGIC DIDN'T STOP HIM*--

WHAT'LL WE ***DO*** WITH ***ABRA KADABRA?***

I'LL TAKE HIM BACK TO HIS OWN TIME ON MY ***COSMIC TREADMILL***--AFTER I SEE YOU OFF TO ***EARTH-TWO*** AND TAKE THE CROOKS YOU HELPED ME CAPTURE--TO JAIL!

22

*D(ARN) C(LEVER) READERS KNOW THAT ***DR. FATE'S*** MAGIC DIDN'T WORK BECAUSE ***ABRA KADABRA*** WAS USING ***64th CENTURY SCIENCE*** TO MAKE HIS FEATS ***SEEM*** LIKE MAGIC--HE REALLY WASN'T USING MAGIC AT ALL!


UPON HIS RETURN FROM THE 64th CENTURY, FLASH CHANGES INTO HIS BARRY ALLEN IDENTITY AND...
I HOPE THAT FUTURE PRISON WILL HOLD ABRA KADABRA THIS TIME --
IRIS! YOU'RE GETTING HOME KIND OF LATE!
MARGOT AND I HAD SO MUCH TO TALK ABOUT! BUT HOW COME YOU'RE SO LATE?
I RAN INTO SOME-- er--OLD FRIENDS, TOO! THEY WERE IN TOWN FOR ONLY A SHORT TIME...
OH? I'D LIKE TO MEET THEM SOMETIME!
YOU WILL, DEAR-- YOU WILL!
ONCE I FINALLY MAKE UP MY MIND TO TELL HER THAT I'M -- THE FLASH!
THE END
23

The Flash

SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

The FLASH

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

SEPT. NO. 173

ONCE there were 3 FLASHES...

THEN there were 2...

THEN there was 1...

FINALLY... there was-- NONE!

STORY BY JOHN BROOME

The FLASH

ART BY CARMINE INFANTINO SID GREENE

DOOMWARD FLIGHT OF THE FLASHES!

HELPLESS ON A TITANIC GEYSER AS THEIR INCREDIBLE FOE **GOLDEN MAN** APPEARS, THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER** AND HIS YOUNG PROTÉGÉ **KID FLASH** ARE AS VULNERABLE AS PING-PONG BALLS DANCING ON A JET OF WATER IN A SHOOTING GALLERY!

BUT THIS TINGLING EPISODE IS MERELY A **MINOR** ONE IN A **MAJOR** TALE OF EXPLOSIVE EXCITEMENT WHICH ALSO INVOLVES **JAY GARRICK, THE FLASH OF YESTERYEAR!**

WE'RE RUNNING AT SUPER-SPEED BUT WE CAN'T GET OFF THIS GEYSER!
THE WATER UNDERFOOT MOVING-- BOUNCING--
GOLDEN MAN'S FIRING HIS PARALYTIC RIFLE AT US! FASTER, KID FLASH... FASTER!

ONE DAY IN THE CITY* WHERE JAY GARRICK, THE "ORIGINAL" FLASH, LIVES WITH HIS WIFE, THE FORMER JOAN WILLIAMS...

JAY, DO YOU MEAN TO SAY THAT YOUR FRIEND BARRY ALLEN ON EARTH-ONE STILL HASN'T TOLD HIS WIFE IRIS THAT HE'S REALLY THE FLASH?

THAT'S RIGHT, JOAN-- HE HASN'T!

*KEYSTONE CITY ON EARTH-TWO IN ANOTHER DIMENSION--A WORLD PARALLEL TO BARRY (FLASH) ALLEN'S AND SIMILAR IN MANY WAYS!

WELL, I'VE BEEN MULLING IT OVER! WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!

NO DOUBT BARRY THINKS HE'S PROTECTING IRIS BY NOT TELLING HER! BUT HE'S WRONG!

ABOVE ALL, A WIFE WANTS TO BE TRUSTED!

YOU MEAN LIKE I'VE TRUSTED YOU!

EXACTLY!

I'VE KNOWN OF YOUR SECRET IDENTITY AS THE FLASH OF OUR WORLD-- AND NO HARM HAS COME TO ME!

SOMEONE?

JOAN, ARE YOU HINTING--?

SOMEONE OUGHT TO TELL BARRY THAT!

JAY GARRICK, FOR A LONG TIME I'VE WANTED TO PAY A VISIT TO EARTH-ONE!

YOU'VE BEEN THERE MORE THAN ONCE-- I THINK IT'S HIGH TIME YOU TOOK ME!

UH--YOU MEAN NOW?

WHY NOT?

NO REASON! IN FACT--

--THIS IS AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY! AND IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO SEE MY FRIEND BARRY AGAIN!

ALL RIGHT, JOAN! HOLD TIGHT TO MY HAND! I'M GOING TO VIBRATE US BOTH AT SUPER-SPEED--!

STRANGEST FEELING! A NUMBNESS--!

ANOTHER SPLIT-INSTANT AND WE'LL BE THROUGH THE DIMENSIONAL BARRIER--!

2

AND WHEN THE SUPER-SPEED VIBRATIONS CEASE...

:Whew:

WHERE ON EARTH-ONE ARE WE?

CENTRAL CITY--

WHERE BARRY AND IRIS LIVE!

SHORTLY, AT THE ABODE OF THE YOUNG NEWLY-MARRIED BARRY ALLENS...

...AND WE'RE FRIENDS OF BARRY--FROM KEYSTONE CITY, MRS. ALLEN!

WE--er--JUST CAME TO TOWN AND DROPPED IN TO SAY HELLO!

OH, WHAT A SHAME BARRY ISN'T HERE, MR. AND MRS. GARRICK!

YOU SEE--

--HE AND MY NEPHEW WALLY, WHO'S VISITING US THIS WEEK-END, WENT OFF TO A MOVIE TONIGHT--LEAVING ME HERE TO FINISH SOME WORK I HAVE TO DO!

I'M A NEWS-PAPER WOMAN...

SO BARRY TOLD ME!

HE'LL BE SO SORRY HE MISSED YOU--eh? GOODNESS, HERE'S MY NEPHEW!

WALLY, WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE IS UNCLE BARRY?

HE HAD TO GO ON A... POLICE CASE, AUNT IRIS!

WE... NEVER DID GET TO THE MOVIE...

"WALLY"--THIS IS THE YOUNGSTER BARRY TOLD ME ABOUT, HIS PROTÉGÉ, WHO IN SECRET IS KID FLASH!

BUT THERE'S SOMETHING THE MATTER--HIS MANNER--THE EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE--!

AS FLASH OF EARTH-TWO MAKES A QUICK DECISION...

JOAN, LISTEN--ENGAGE IRIS IN CONVERSATION! I WANT TO TALK TO WALLY--PRIVATELY!

ALL RIGHT--BUT WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?

WILL EXPLAIN LATER! GO AHEAD--!

IRIS--WILL YOU TELL ME ABOUT YOUR NEWS-PAPER WORK?

OF COURSE JOAN--I'LL BE HAPPY TO!

WALLY... ACT AS IF NOTHING IS HAPPENING!

WALK OUT WITH ME TO THE TERRACE...

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE VISITOR REVEALS WHO HE REALLY IS...

YOU'RE JAY GARRICK--THE FLASH OF EARTH-TWO!? I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO MEET YOU--BARRY HAS TOLD ME SO MUCH ABOUT YOU!

CALL ME JAY!

JUMPING JETS--AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU, MR. GARRICK!

SOMETHING IS WRONG, ISN'T THERE, WALLY?

THERE SURE IS! I'LL TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED TONIGHT, JAY--WHAT I COULDN'T TELL AUNT IRIS...

BARRY AND I DID START OUT TO GO TO A MOVIE--THAT PART IS TRUE!

BUT WE DIDN'T GET VERY FAR, BECAUSE ON THE WAY--

"--WE RAN INTO A SPECTACULAR CRIME RIGHT ON MAIN STREET!..."

THE DOMINO GANG--LOOTING THAT MONEY EXCHANGE!

THIS MUST BE MY LUCKY EVENING! I'VE BEEN AFTER THAT GANG FOR THE PAST MONTH!

READY FOR A BIT OF SUPER-SPEED ACTION, WALLY?

LET'S JET UP AND GO, UNCLE BARRY!

MONEY CHANGED FOREIGN EXCHANGE

"UNDER COVER OF INVISIBLE SUPER-VELOCITY, WE EJECTED OUR UNIFORMS FROM OUR RINGS, WHICH INSTANTLY ENLARGED ON CONTACT WITH THE AIR..."

"AND AN EYE-BLINK LATER..."

FLASH!?

AND KID FLASH..?!

"OUR FOES MANAGED TO PULL GUNS, BUT BEFORE THEY COULD USE THEM..."

WITH HIS HANDS MOVING AT SUPER-SPEED, **FLASH** CAN SQUEEZE HARD METAL--COMPRESS IT AS IF IT WERE SOFT RUBBER!

SPLAT!

AND I CAN TEAR THIS GUN IN TWO--

AS EASILY AS PEELING A BANANA!

"THE **DOMINOES** BACKED UP AGAINST A WALL--THEY KNEW THEY WERE IN BAD TROUBLE!"

STAY AGAINST THE WALL--THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO GET BEHIND US!

USE YOUR FISTS! WE CAN KNOCK 'EM OUT!

"THEN, AMID A FLURRY OF FISTS..."

WUH!! A SMACK RIGHT ON THE KISSER!

WUH!! A LUCKY PUNCH! HE JUST SWUNG WILD--AND HAPPENED TO CONNECT!

BRAP!

DON'T COUNT ME OUT YET, **DOMINO!**

EVEN AS HE LANDED, I PULLED BACK AT SUPER-SPEED--AND TOOK THE STING OUT OF HIS BLOW!

BUT **HE** CAN'T DO THE SAME FOR MINE!

ZUNCH!

CRUNCH

CHRKKK

S

"NO, THE CROOKS COULDN'T HANDLE OUR SUPER—SPEED ATTACK..."

COLUMN OF AIR BREATHED OUT BY THE **JUNIOR WIZARD OF WHIZ**, BUT AT ULTRA-VELOCITY.. HITTING ITS TARGET WITH THE FORCE OF A SOLID OBJECT!

"HALF OF THEM WERE DOWN, THE OTHER HALF WOBBLY, TRYING TO RUN, WHEN **IT** HAPPENED.."

AT THEM! DON'T LET THEM GET--

:UHH:

FLASH, WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S THE MATTER..?

"BEFORE I COULD MOVE, EVEN BEFORE I COULD **THINK**..."

ZOWIE!

THAT TERRIBLE BLAST... KNOCKING ME TO THE GROUND!

LOSING CONSCIOUSNESS...

WH-WHAT'S... HAPPENING.. TO... **FLASH**?

WHEN I CAME TO, THE CROOKS WERE GONE! AND SO WAS **FLASH**! I SAW HIM DISAPPEAR--VANISH INTO NOTHINGNESS RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES!

AND THERE'S BEEN NO SIGN OF HIM SINCE!

INCREDIBLE!

BUT YOU WERE RIGHT NOT TO GIVE ANY HINT OF THIS TO IRIS...

...NO POINT IN ALARMING HER UNNECESSARILY!

LISTEN, WALLY, AFTER JOAN AND I LEAVE, GIVE YOUR AUNT IRIS SOME EXCUSE...

THEN MEET ME AT THE DRUGSTORE AT THE END OF THIS STREET!

I'LL BE THERE!

SURE ENOUGH, A QUARTER-HOUR AFTERWARD...

DRU

I'VE TOLD JOAN, WALLY--I HAVE NO SECRETS FROM HER!

HERE'S WHERE I BOW OUT--

AND LEAVE THE **FLASH**-FINDING TO YOU TWO!

LATER, WITH JOAN LEFT AT A HOTEL, TWO CRIMSON THUNDERBOLTS CLEAVE THE NIGHT-DARKENED CITY...

WE HAVEN'T THE LEAST CLUE, **KID FLASH**-- BUT IT'S POSSIBLE THAT BARRY'S DISAPPEARANCE IS LINKED TO THAT **DOWNO GANG!**

WE'VE GOT TO FIND THEM!

RIGHT, **FLASH**--!

SEEMS ODD TO CALL **JAY** THAT-- BUT AFTER ALL, HE **IS FLASH** TOO!

SOON...

JAY-FLASH AND I HAVE SPLIT UP IN ORDER TO COVER EVERY INCH OF THIS CITY BETWEEN US!

WE'RE CRISSCROSSING BACK AND FORTH!

HERE HE COMES! HIS PATH AND MINE ARE ABOUT TO CROSS--

SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING...

ZOWW!

UHH-- EXPLOSION -- GASP! AND **KID FLASH** DISAPPEARING--!

AS THE **SCARLET SPEEDSTER** OF **EARTH-TWO** FIGHTS OFF A WAVE OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS...

KID FLASH... VANISHED... GONE... JUST THE WAY **FLASH** WENT...!

...WHERE?...

WHAT HAPPENED TO... THEM...?

AT THIS MOMENT ON A VERY DISTANT WORLD IN THE FAR-OFF GALAXY KNOWN AS **ANDROMEDA**...

YOU ARE ASLEEP, **KID FLASH**--

BUT I CAN STILL COMMUNICATE WITH YOU!

YOU ARE SUFFERING THE AFTEREFFECTS OF YOUR JOURNEY HERE TO **YORVAN**-- BUT EVEN SO, BY **TELEPATHY** I CAN ENTER YOUR MIND!

WHEN YOU AWAKEN YOU **MUST** BE IN FULL POSSESSION OF ALL YOUR FACULTIES!

TO BEGIN WITH--I AM CALLED--

THEREFORE IT IS NECESSARY FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND WHY--AND **HOW**--YOU WERE BROUGHT HERE!

"**GOLDEN MAN**--FROM THE COLOR OF MY SKIN! IN ALL OF **VORVAN** THERE IS NONE OTHER LIKE ME!"

ALONE! IN THE MIDST OF THESE--MY FELLOW CREATURES OF THIS PLANET--I AM ALWAYS ALONE!

THEY ARE THE PRIMITIVE BEGINNINGS OF OUR RACE, BUT I--I AM A **MUTANT***--MILLIONS OF YEARS AHEAD OF THEM IN THE EVOLUTIONARY CYCLE!

*AN INDIVIDUAL BORN AHEAD OF HIS TIME--A RARE ACCIDENT OF NATURE!

MY MENTAL CAPACITY IS GIGANTIC!

WITH IT, ALONE, I BUILT **VORVAN CITY**! BUT ONLY **I** LIVE IN IT!

THE OTHERS ALL LIVE IN CAVES--WHICH THEY PREFER--AND WHICH SUITS THEM BETTER!

...BUT DESPITE MY GIANT INTELLECT, MY LIFE BECAME IRKSOME--BORING!

HUNTING HAD ALWAYS BEEN MY PASSION--BUT EVEN THAT BECAME TIRESOME BECAUSE NO PREY ON **VORVAN** COULD ESCAPE ME! IN DESPERATION I TURNED TO **OTHER WORLDS** FOR **WORTHY GAME!**

AND THAT IS WHERE **YOU** COME IN, **KID FLASH**...

YOU WERE BROUGHT HERE--LIKE YOUR MENTOR **FLASH**--BY MY TELEPORTATION DEVICE WHICH ACTS INSTANTLY OVER ANY DISTANCE!

YOU TWO WERE SINGLED OUT BECAUSE OF ALL THE BEINGS ON ALL THE WORLDS I EXAMINED, YOU TWO PROMISED TO AFFORD ME A RARE THRILL--

TO HUNT A QUARRY--EQUIPPED WITH EXTRA-ORDINARY SPEED!

YOUR MENTOR **FLASH** IS ALSO ASLEEP! WHEN YOU BOTH AWAKEN YOU WILL FIND YOURSELVES OUTSIDE **VORVAN CITY**--TELEPORTED BY MY DEVICE! YOU WILL BE IN FULL POSSESSION OF ALL YOUR POWERS!

AND AT THAT MOMENT **THE HUNT WILL BEGIN!**

THE RULES WE WILL FOLLOW ARE SIMPLE! IF YOU TWO CAN ELUDE ME FOR FOUR TIKANS* YOU WILL BE RETURNED SAFELY TO YOUR PLANET!

IF YOU FAIL, YOU WILL BE DESTROYED!

AND NOW-- GOOD LUCK, EARTHLINGS! YOU'LL NEED IT!

* A TIKAN IS AN EARTH-HOUR.

THERE IS A CLICK IN THE BRAINS OF THE TWO FLASHES, AND THEN...

KID FLASH! YOU ALL RIGHT?

YES! I HEARD ALL THAT GOLDEN MAN COMMUNICATED TO US, FLASH!

HE SAID HE BROUGHT US HERE FOR THRILLS! I WONDER IF THAT'S THE REAL REASON--

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO, FLASH? I CAN'T SEE WHY WE HAVE TO PLAY HIS DEADLY GAME--

WE HAVE TO!

IT MAY BE OUR ONLY WAY TO GET BACK TO EARTH! COME ON--

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS ELUDE GOLDEN MAN FOR FOUR HOURS!

WE'LL START BY PUTTING MILES OF DISTANCE BETWEEN US AND VORVAN CITY--AT SUPER-SPEED!

... SEEMS TOO EASY--TO GET AWAY WITH IT...

SWIFT AS MOONBEAMS THE TWO SPEEDSTERS RACE ACROSS THE AWESOME, FORBIDDING TERRAIN OF VORVAN...

THIS MUST BE WHAT OUR EARTH WAS LIKE MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO-- WHILE MOUNTAINS WERE RISING--

THE GROUND ITSELF IS STRANGE--

SHAKY UNDER-FOOT--

SUDDENLY...

TROUBLE--!

AND WE'RE CAUGHT UP IN IT!

9

A HUGE FORCE BURSTING OUT UNDER THE SUPER-SPEEDY PAIR AT FANTASTIC VELOCITY RAISES THEM HIGH IN THE AIR...

WE'VE BEEN SHOT UPWARD ON TOP OF A GREAT *GEYSER!*

THE WATER--BUBBLING--DANCING--UNDERFOOT! WE CAN'T MAKE ANY HEADWAY!

WE'RE RUNNING IN PLACE--EVEN AT SUPER-SPEED!

WE'VE *GOT* TO GET BACK TO THE GROUND!

WE MAKE A *PERFECT TARGET* UP HERE--LIKE IN A *SHOOTING GALLERY!*

FLASH--

AN AIR-CRAFT HEADING THIS WAY--!

HA! CAUGHT ON MY GEYSER! THIS HUNT IS PRACTICALLY OVER!

YOU DIDN'T LAST LONG! IN A MOMENT YOU'LL BE WITHIN RANGE OF MY *PARALYSIS-RIFLE!*

IT'S *GOLDEN MAN!* POUR IT ON, KID *FLASH!* VIBRATE DOWNWARD--IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!

AS *FLASH'S* INSPIRED IDEA PROVES ITS WORTH IN THE NICK OF TIME...

HE CAN'T GET A CLEAR SHOT AT US NOW--ON ACCOUNT OF THE RUSHING WATER--!

AS SOON AS WE HIT GROUND LEVEL, *KID FLASH*--TAKE OFF!

10

WE'RE MOVING SO FAST NOW, HE CAN'T *SEE* US-- MUCH LESS SHOOT AT US!

MY COMPLIMENTS! YOU TWO ARE GETTING AWAY THIS TIME--BUT IT'S A LONG WAY TO THE END OF THE DEADLINE! YOU HAVEN'T WON YET!

AS RED STREAKS SPURT ACROSS *VORVAN*...

AT THIS SPEED WE'RE PRACTICALLY INVISIBLE!

WE'LL KEEP GOING AROUND AND AROUND THIS PLANET--AND WON'T SLOW DOWN UNTIL THE FOUR HOURS ARE UP!

THIS OUGHT TO WORK... AND YET...

INSTANTLY... THE HEAVENS OPEN UP...

RAIN... POURING DOWN! IT'S A--DELUGE!

NEVER SAW-- OR FELT-- RAIN LIKE THIS BEFORE!

IT'S FORMING *CRYSTALS* AS IT HITS US--!

THE CRYSTALS GROWING FAST--ALL OVER US!

THEY'RE STICKING TO US LIKE GLUE-- CAN'T SHAKE THEM OFF!

WEIGHING US DOWN--CAN'T KEEP UP OUR SPEED--!

LIKE A GREAT BIRD OF PREY A NOW-FAMILIAR AIR VEHICLE ZOOMS AT THE HARASSED **FLASHES**..

MY **CRYSTAL-RAIN** HAS SLOWED YOU DOWN, **EARTHLINGS**! NOW MY PARALYSIS-RIFLE WILL STOP YOU COMPLETELY!

QUICK, **KID FLASH**! FOLLOW MY LEAD!

HEAD FOR THAT DENSE THICKET-- FAST AS YOU CAN!

AS THE DESPERATE DUO CRASHES INTO THE DENSELY-PACKED, THORNY BUSHES...

AS I FIGURED--THE SHARP TWIGS OF THESE BUSHES ARE TEARING OFF THE CRYSTALS--RIPPING THEM LOOSE!

QUICK THINKING, **FLASH**!

WE CAN **MOVE** AGAIN--!

WITH THE CRYSTALS OFF US, **KID FLASH** AND I ARE MOVING SO FAST THAT WE'RE **OUTRACING** THE PARALYZING RADIATION FROM **GOLDEN MAN'S** RIFLE!

THEY'RE ESCAPING! THEIR SPEED IS FANTASTIC!

I DON'T MIND **THAT** A BIT!

IN AN INSTANT **FLASH** AND HIS PROTÉGÉ ARE HUNDREDS OF MILES AWAY!

WE'LL HAVE TO BE ON OUR GUARD EVERY MOMENT REMAINING IN THE HUNT, **KID FLASH**!

GOLDEN MAN IS TRICKY! HE'LL STOP AT NOTHING!

HE SEEMS TO HAVE CONTROL OVER THINGS ON THIS PLANET!

HE'S USING ALL HIS POWERS TO TRAP US!

12

MEANWHILE, GOLDEN MAN HAS RETURNED TO HIS LABORATORY HEADQUARTERS...

THE TWO FLASHES DON'T REALIZE IT BUT THIS HUNT I'M CARRYING OUT IS JUST A RUSE--

MERELY MY WAY OF GETTING THEM TO RUN AT THEIR GREATEST VELOCITY-- AND WITH THEIR HIGHEST VIBRATION RATES!

THEY KNOW NOTHING...

...ABOUT THIS MACHINE I'VE BUILT TO CAPTURE AND STORE THEIR SUPER-SPEED ENERGY WAVES!

IT'S DESIGNED-- WHEN I THROW THE LEVER--

WHEN THE VOLTAGE OF THAT ENERGY REACHES THE PROPER LEVEL, THIS MACHINE WILL CARRY OUT MY GIGANTIC SCHEME!

--TO INSTANTLY CATAPULT THE PRIMITIVE PEOPLE OF VORVAN THROUGH A MILLION YEARS OF EVOLUTION--ALL THE WAY IN ONE LEAP TO MY LEVEL!

AT A STROKE, VORVAN WILL BECOME A PLANET LIKE EARTH-- ONLY MUCH MORE ADVANCED!

AND I WILL BECOME THE LEADER OF A SUPER-CIVILIZED WORLD--INSTEAD OF THIS RUDE, CRUDE ONE!

AS THE INCREDIBLE GOLDEN MAN TESTS HIS MACHINE'S POWER-OUTPUT...

NOT YET!

I NEED MORE SUPER-SPEED ENERGY--MUCH MORE! TO OBTAIN IT I MUST IMPEL MY QUARRY TO EVEN GREATER EFFORTS!

BUT THAT WON'T BE HARD-- HA-HA!

NOT HARD AT ALL!

AND SOON AFTER IN THE PATH OF THE SPEEDING DUO, SUDDENLY...

UHH! THE GROUND'S MELTING UNDER US!

IT'S TURNED INTO A KIND OF QUICK-SAND--

PULLING US DOWN--

QUICK, KID FLASH! OPEN UP-- GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT!

13

BUT THE STRANGE, TENACIOUS BOG CLINGS WITH TERRIBLE STRENGTH TO ITS PREY...

DESPITE ALL OUR EFFORTS--A TREMENDOUS FORCE IS SUCKING US DOWN--!

WE'RE CLOSE TO SOLID GROUND--

BUT AS WE ADVANCE TOWARD IT--WE GO DEEPER AND DEEPER!

I'M...GOING UNDER! NEVER MIND ME, **FLASH**-- SAVE YOURSELF!

HANG ON, **KID FLASH!** ONLY A COUPLE OF YARDS MORE--!

GOT TO HELP HIM--!

WITH AN OUTPOURING OF ENORMOUS EFFORT, **FLASH** REACHES HIS YOUNGER COLLEAGUE...

HE'S PASSED OUT--!

FEELS LIKE A DEAD WEIGHT IN MY HANDS...

AT THAT MOMENT...

BEAUTIFUL! I'VE GOT THEM IN A SPOT WHERE THEY'RE GIVING OFF SUPER-SPEED VIBRATIONS OF THE HIGHEST FREQUENCY!

I'LL LET THEM STRUGGLE--FOR A MOMENT! NO NEED TO THREATEN THEM WITH MY RIFLE--!

...GOT HIM TO HARD GROUND...

HE'S SAFE--BUT THE **RECOIL** FROM MY EFFORT--*PUSHING* **ME UNDER**--!

14

THINKING ONLY OF HIS PROTÉGÉ, THE GALLANT **MAN OF SPEED** ENDANGERED HIS OWN LIFE...

GREAT ANDROMEDA! **FLASH** HAS SUNK BENEATH THE SURFACE!

I DIDN'T WANT **THIS** TO HAPPEN-- NOT BEFORE I HAVE A SUFFICIENT ACCUMULATION OF SUPER-SPEED RADIATION!

I MUST RESCUE HIM!

CAN'T LOCATE HIM! I'VE SENT DOWN A SCORE OF ENERGY-BEAMS-PROBED IN ALL DIRECTIONS! HE MUST HAVE GONE **TOO DEEP**-- BEYOND MY RANGE OF POWER!

FLASH IS GONE-- FINISHED!

FLASH PERFORMED A HEROIC FIGHT SAVING HIS PROTÉGÉ! ALMOST... HE WON MY SYMPATHY!

BUT I HAVE NO TIME FOR SUCH THOUGHTS...

I'LL TAKE **KID FLASH** BACK TO **VORVAN CITY**-- I MAY STILL NEED HIM FOR EXTRA POWER!

LATER...

POWER LEVEL NOT YET HIGH ENOUGH!

WHAT AM I TO DO NOW?

KID FLASH BY HIMSELF CAN'T POSSIBLY GIVE ME THE NECESSARY VOLUME OF ENERGY! I NEED AT LEAST **TWO** SUPER-SPEED ENERGY SOURCES--

WAIT A MOMENT! I JUST RECALLED SOME-THING--

AT THE TIME I PLUCKED **KID FLASH** FROM **EARTH**, I SPIED THROUGH MY SUPER-TELESCOPE **ANOTHER** FIGURE THERE MOVING AT ULTRA-VELOCITY!

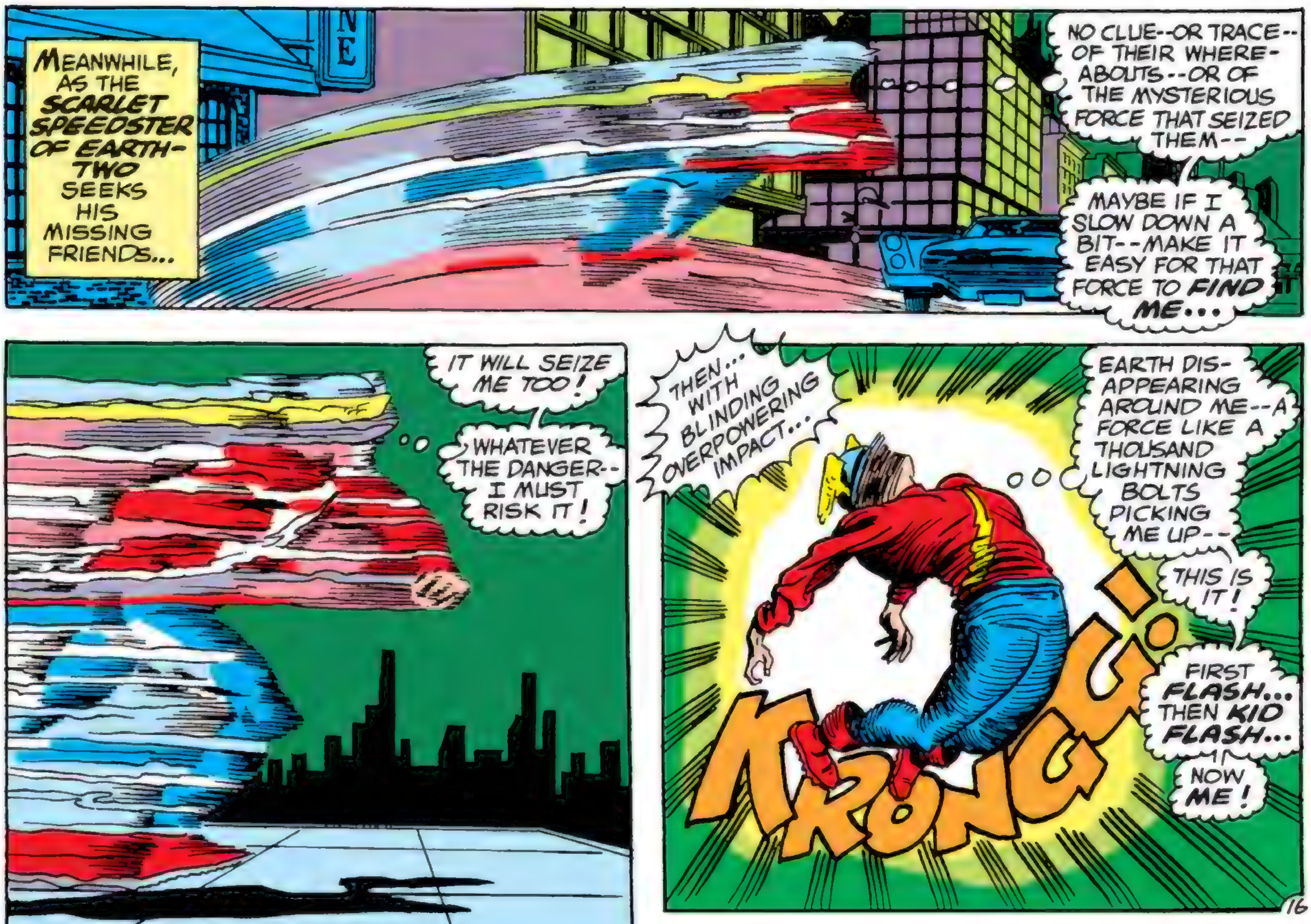
IT LOOKED LIKE ANOTHER **FLASH**-- THOUGH IT WAS MY BELIEF THERE WAS ONLY **ONE ADULT FLASH ON EARTH!**

IN ANY CASE...

...WHOEVER HE IS, THIS **SECOND FLASH** IS ABOUT TO FOLLOW IN THE COSMIC FOOTSTEPS OF HIS TWO PRE-DECESSORS!

I NEED HIM HERE ON **VORVAN**--

TO CARRY OUT THE SUPER-EVOLUTION OF MY PLANET!


MEANWHILE, AS THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER OF EARTH-TWO SEEKS HIS MISSING FRIENDS...
NO CLUE--OR TRACE--OF THEIR WHEREABOUTS--OR OF THE MYSTERIOUS FORCE THAT SEIZED THEM--
MAYBE IF I SLOW DOWN A BIT--MAKE IT EASY FOR THAT FORCE TO FIND ME...
IT WILL SEIZE ME TOO!
WHATEVER THE DANGER--I MUST RISK IT!
THEN... WITH BLINDING OVERPOWERING IMPACT...
EARTH DISAPPEARING AROUND ME--A FORCE LIKE A THOUSAND LIGHTNING BOLTS PICKING ME UP--
THIS IS IT!
FIRST FLASH... THEN KID FLASH...
NOW ME!
KRONG!
16

The Flash

ON VORVAN... ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY...

eh? THIS FLASH ENDURED THE TELE-PORTATION WITHOUT LOSING CONSCIOUSNESS?

THIS MUST BE THE HIDDEN FOE BEHIND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF FLASH AND KID FLASH!

I MUST BRING HIM UNDER CONTROL!

HIS ARRIVING HERE WIDE AWAKE CAME AS A SURPRISE!

SEIZING UP THAT WEAPON! ONLY HE'S MUCH TOO SLOW--!

BUT AS THE ORIGINAL SULTAN OF SPEED WHIPS FORWARD...

UHH--!

THE FLOOR-TILE UNDER ME-- SUDDENLY SPINNING-- SHOOTING ME INTO THE AIR--!

YES-- BY CENTRIFUGAL FORCE! THIS ROOM IS ALIVE WITH DEVICES TO PROTECT ME, FLASH!

IN MID-AIR THE EMBATTLED SPEEDSTER VIBRATES HIMSELF TO ONE SIDE BARELY IN TIME...

WHRRR

MANAGED TO AVOID HIS ENERGY-BLAST AT ME!

DROPPING BACK NOW TOWARD THE FLOOR-- AND TOWARD HIM!

I'LL LEAP OVER THE TILE THAT SPUN ME A MOMENT AGO! THIS TIME NOTHING WILL KEEP ME FROM REACHING HIM--

17

BUT AS JAY-FLASH CATAPULTS HIMSELF FORWARD, ABRUPTLY...

eh?! THE TILE SHOT UPWARD FROM THE FLOOR--

HA, HA! MY DEVICES ARE MIND-TRIGGERED, FLASH-- AND I CAN THINK AS FAST AS YOU CAN MOVE!

AND WHEN THE MASTER OF VORVAN'S LATEST VICTIM COMES TO HIS SENSES...

KID FLASH!?

YOU ALL RIGHT? WHAT-- WHERE IS BARRY--?

I'LL TELL YOU EVERY-THING I CAN, JAY...

...AND AFTER THAT NIGHTMARISH HUNT I LEARNED THROUGH THOUGHTS COMMUNI-CATED TO ME BY GOLDEN MAN THAT BARRY-FLASH PERISHED IN THE QUICKSAND AFTER SAVING ME!

BARRY--

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!

AS ALL VIBRATORY EFFORTS FAIL TO FREE THE EN-TRAPPED DUO...

NO USE!

CAN'T BREAK THROUGH THIS STRANGE RADIATION--!

OF COURSE YOU CAN'T! MY SCIENCE IS FAR ADVANCED OVER YOURS-- BY AT LEAST A HALF-MILLION YEARS!

BUT I MUST ADMIT I HAVE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO RECREATE YOUR SUPER-SPEED VIBRATIONS!

TOO BAD WE CAN'T CARRY ON THE HUNT! I RATHER ENJOYED THAT!

BUT I HAVE NO MORE TIME TO WASTE--!

I AM INTRODUCING AN ARTIFICIAL COLD-- OF SUB-ABSOLUTE ZERO-- INTO YOUR RADIATION CELL!

HURRY! YOU BETTER BEGIN NOW!

THE ONLY WAY YOU WILL BE ABLE TO STAY ALIVE IS BY VIBRATING YOURSELVES TO YOUR UTMOST AT SUPER-SPEED!

18

THAT'S IT, **EARTHLINGS**-- INTO YOUR SUPER-SPEED DANCE AGAINST DEATH!

THE NEEDLE IS CLIMBING UP! SOON MY MACHINE WILL BE READY TO TRANSFORM THE CREATURES OF **VORYAN**!

AS THE DEADLY COLD SPRINGS THROUGH THE RADIATION CELL..

;BRR: WE MAY BE AIDING **GOLDEN MAN**--BUT WE CAN'T HELP OURSELVES!

;BRR: THE COLD--INCREASING IN INTENSITY! WE'VE GOT TO VIBRATE FASTER AND FASTER TO COMBAT IT!

AT THIS RATE... WE WON'T LAST LONG, **KID FLASH**!... OUR OWN VIBRATIONS CARRIED TO SUCH AN EXTREME WILL KILL US!

...YET WE CAN'T STOP...!

;GASP: I--I'M WEAKENING, **JAY-FLASH**! CAN'T KEEP IT UP!

BUT IN THE GRIM CRISIS, HELP IS ON THE WAY TO THE EM-BATTLED PAIR... IN THE PERSON OF NONE OTHER THAN **BARRY-FLASH**!

WITHOUT HIS KNOWING IT, THE TELEPATHIC THOUGHTS OF **GOLDEN MAN** COMING TO ME AT A DISTANCE...

...HAVE INFORMED ME OF THE DESPERATE PLIGHT OF **KID FLASH** AND **JAY-FLASH**!

AND MICRO-MOMENTS LATER...

GREAT ANDROMEDA!

THE OTHER **FLASH**-- B-BUT YOU'RE **DEAD**!

AND **YOU'RE DEAD WRONG, GOLDEN MAN**!

AT TOP SPEED THE **HUMAN WHIRLWIND** DESTROYS HALF OF HIS FOE'S LABORATORY IN A TWINKLING...

I DON'T KNOW WHICH OF THESE SWITCHES CONTROLS THE RADIATION CELL HOLDING **KID FLASH** AND **JAY-FLASH**--

BARRY..!

SO I'LL JUST RIP APART ALL OF THEM UNTIL I HIT THE RIGHT ONE--!

19

HE FREED US!

HOW GREAT TO SEE YOU **ALIVE, BARRY!** WE BELIEVED--

I'M ALIVE ALL RIGHT, **JAY!** BUT IF WE'RE **ALL** GOING TO STAY THAT WAY--

THE THREE OF US HAVE TO TARNISH **GOLDEN MAN'S** HIDE!

THREE-WAY **FLASH** ATTACK AGAINST ME! I'LL HAVE TO EXERT EVERY ERG OF MY **TELEKINETIC POWER!***

EDITOR'S NOTE:** THE CONTROL OF MATTER DIRECTLY BY MIND IS KNOWN AS **TELE-KINESIS!

HIS MENTAL FORCE COUNTERACTING OUR SUPER-SPEED MOTION--

--BLOWING US BACK-WARDS--

--AS IF BY A **GIANT WIND!**

HIS **MIND POWER** ACTS ONLY AT A SHORT DISTANCE--

WE'RE OUT OF ITS RANGE NOW--!

BUT HOW DO WE DEFEAT HIM--

IF WE CAN'T REACH HIM!

I HAVE AN IDEA!

LISTEN--

THEN...

BY VIBRATING AT THE SAME FREQUENCY, **JAY-FLASH** AND **KID FLASH** ARE BOOSTING MY SUPER-SPEED POWER!

THEIR VIBRATIONS ARE REACHING ME--ADDING TO MY VELOCITY AS I GO AT **GOLDEN MAN--!**

20

AS THE IMPROVISED MANEUVER SUCCEEDS BRILLIANTLY...

eh ?

HE'S BREAKING THROUGH MY TELEKINETIC SHIELD! HIS SPEED IS SO FANTASTIC MY **MIND** CAN'T AFFECT HIM--!

STRIKING ME-- ASSAULTING ME WITH PHYSICAL FORCE--!

RAINING A THOUSAND BLOWS IN THE SPACE OF AN INSTANT!

TOPPLED BY THE ATTACK, THE **VORVAN MAN OF THE FUTURE** IS STILL INDOMITABLE...

I STILL CAN WIN! MY EVOLUTIONARY MACHINE IS UNDAMAGED!

BY ACTIVATING IT I'LL CREATE A HOST OF NEW **GOLDEN MEN**--LIKE MYSELF--TO COMBAT THE **FLASHES!**

IN OVERWHELMING NUMBERS, THEY'LL COME TO MY AID...

THEN, IN RESPONSE TO A MENTAL COMMAND FROM **GOLDEN MAN**...

THE ONLY QUESTION IS--IS MY MACHINE READY? NO TIME TO TEST IT--I MUST TAKE THE CHANCE!

CLICK

AS AN INCREDIBLE CHANGE TAKES PLACE, BUT **NOT** IN THE PEOPLE OF **VORVAN**...

MY PEOPLE... MUST ALL BECOME... LIKE ME!

THEY ...UHH...

SOMETHING... HAPPENING... TO **ME!!**

LOOK! THE **CHANGE** COMING OVER HIM--!!

IT--IT'S AS IF HE'S TRAVELING **BACKWARD** IN TIME-- A **MILLION YEARS** BACK BEFORE OUR EYES!

21

AS THE CHANGE IS COMPLETED AND THE MACHINE STOPS...

HE'S BECOME JUST LIKE THE OTHER PRIMITIVES HERE!

INCREDIBLE! HIS MENTAL FORCE IS GONE--I CAN FEEL IT!

HE'S NO MENACE TO US NOW!

HE WAS OUT OF PLACE HERE-- FAR AHEAD OF THE PLANET'S EVOLUTION!

NOW ***VORVAN*** CAN PROGRESS NATURALLY TOWARD CIVILIZATION-- IN EONS OF TIME! HE TRIED TO RUSH THINGS-- BUT HIS FUTURISTIC SCIENCE BOOMERANGED ON HIMSELF!

LATER, BEFORE ATTEMPTING THEIR RETURN TO EARTH, THE THREE SPEEDSTERS MATCH NOTES...AND FILL IN GAPS FOR EACH OTHER...

...AND UNDER THE QUICKSAND, SINCE I FOUND SUPER-SPEED COULDN'T RESIST THE DOWNWARD PULL, I DECIDED TO CHANGE MY TACTICS--AND TRY TO VIBRATE ***DOWNWARD*** INSTEAD!

THIS HAD A QUICK EFFECT!

IN NO TIME AT ALL I HAD VIBRATED THROUGH THE ***ENTIRE PLANET*** AND COME OUT ON THE OTHER SIDE!

YOU KNOW THE REST...

YOU SURE HAD US SCARED, ***FLASH***!

WE WERE AFRAID YOU WERE ***REALLY*** DONE FOR!

I GAVE ***GOLDEN MAN*** A SCARE BY LANDING HERE ***CONSCIOUS***! I'VE FIGURED OUT WHAT HAPPENED--

YOU KNOW, AS ***FLASH*** I ALWAYS MAINTAIN AN ***INNER VIBRATION***...

...WHICH CAUSES MY FACIAL FEATURES TO BLUR A LITTLE--AND THAT'S WHY I DON'T HAVE TO WEAR A MASK!

WHEN I'M ***THE FLASH*** NO ONE CAN RECOGNIZE ME AS ***JAY GARRICK***!

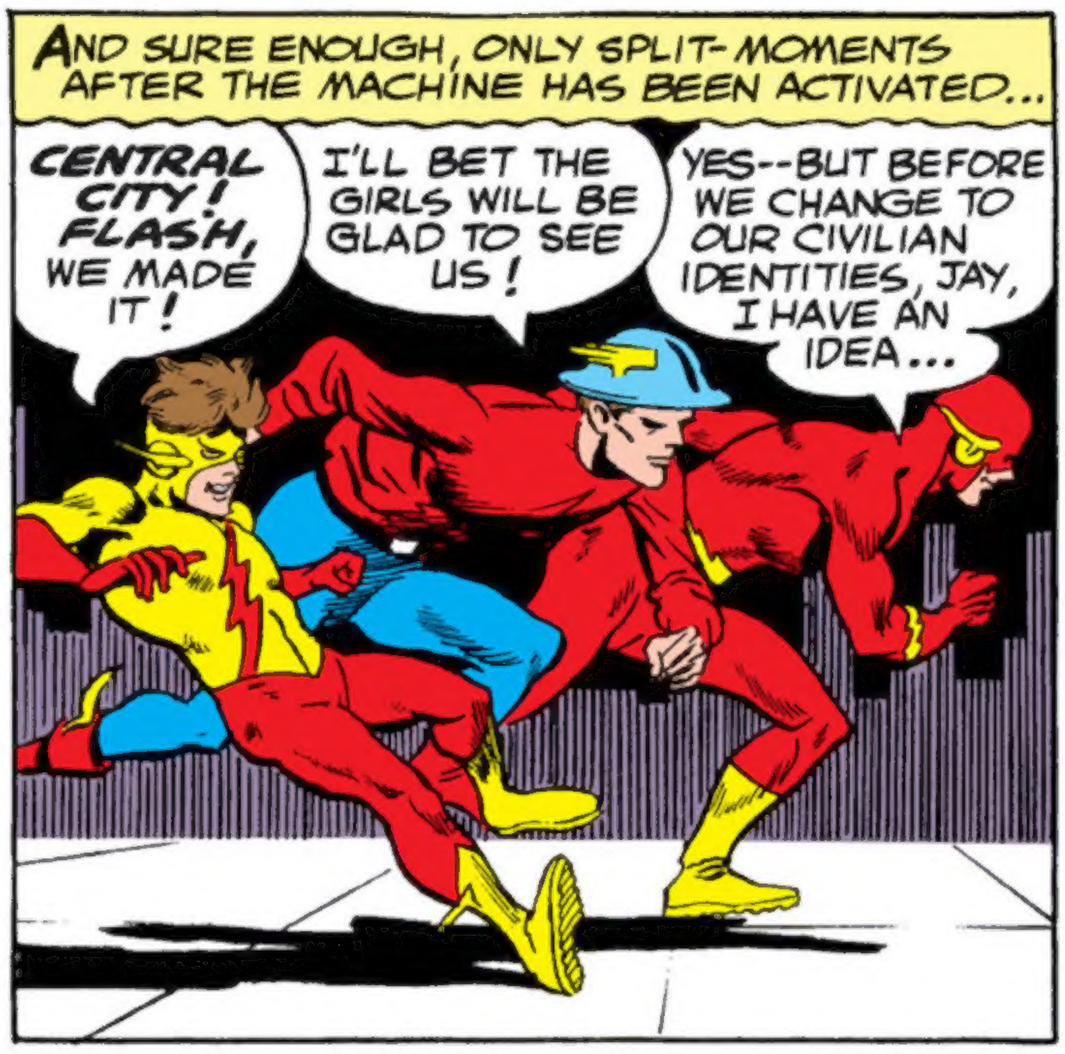
AND IT WAS THAT VIBRATION WHICH MADE ME IMMUNE TO THE SHOCK OF TELEPORTATION!

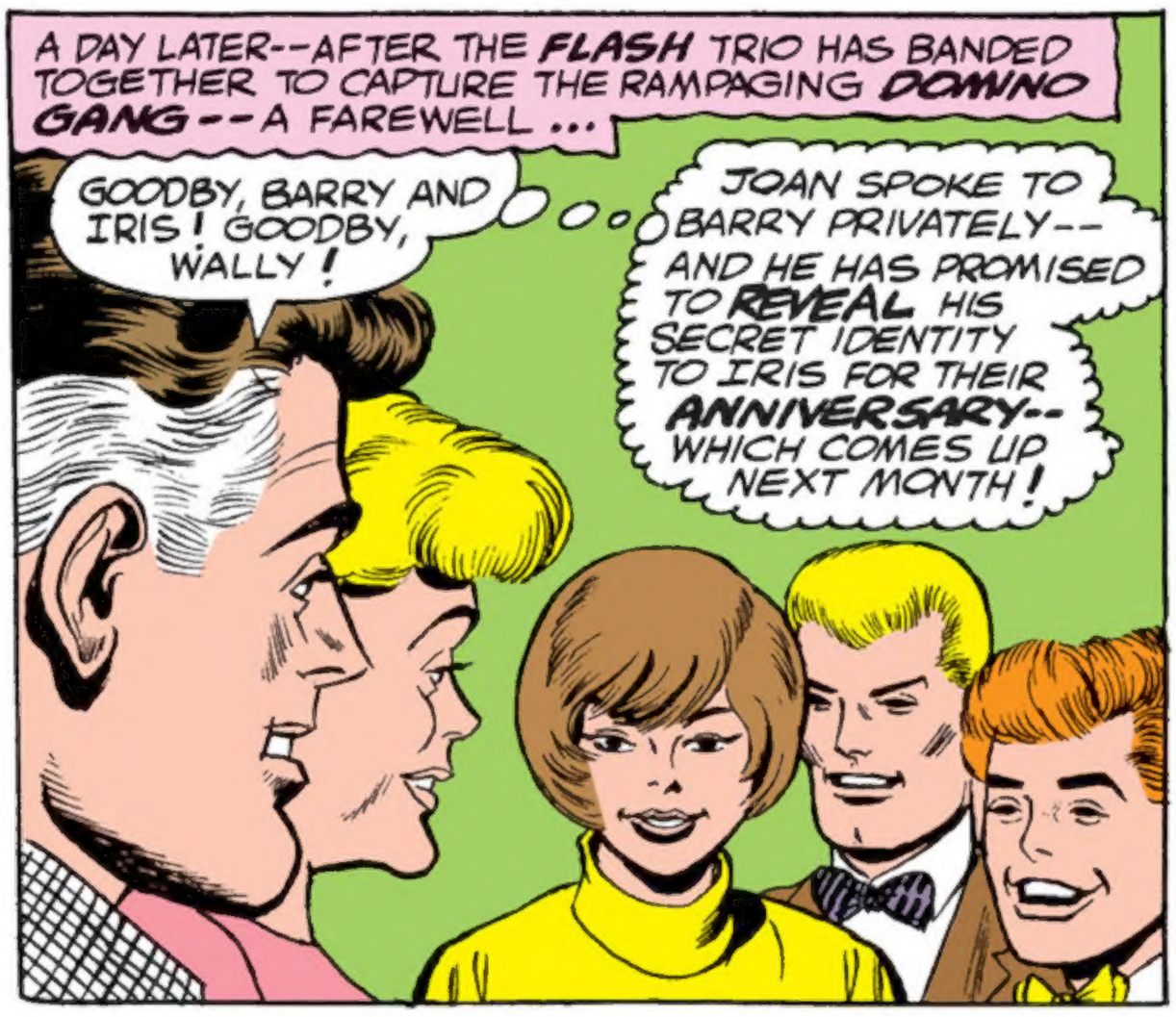
FINALLY, THE LAST REMAINING PROBLEM IS TACKLED...

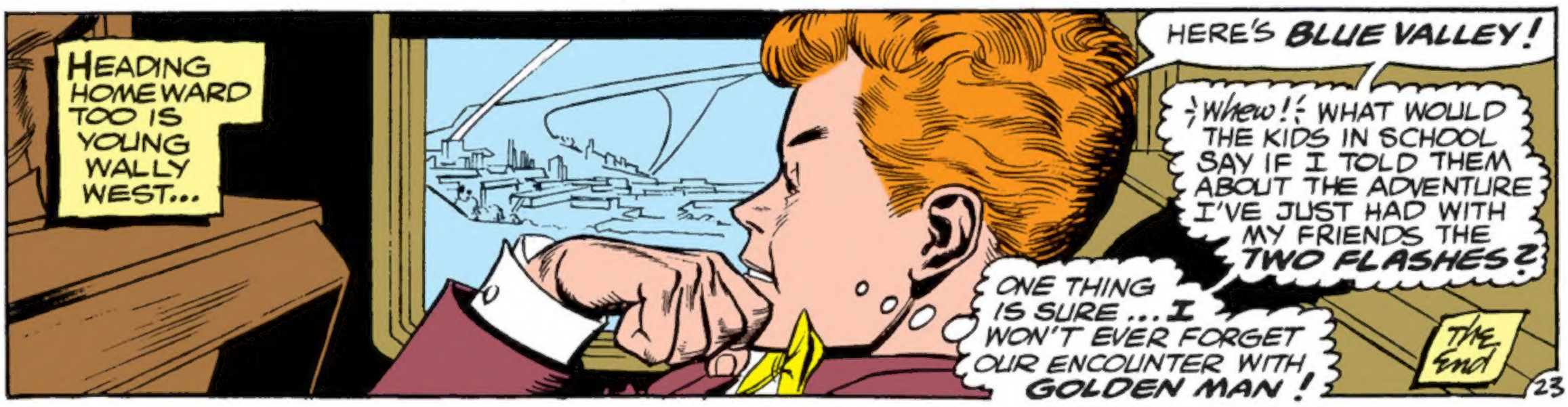
WE'RE FINISHED!

WORKING AT SUPER SPEED WE'VE MANAGED TO REVERSE THE CIRCUITS ON ***GOLDEN MAN'S*** TELEPORTATION DEVICE!

WHEN IT'S TURNED ON IT SHOULD ***RETURN*** US TO ***EARTH***!


AND SURE ENOUGH, ONLY SPLIT-MOMENTS AFTER THE MACHINE HAS BEEN ACTIVATED...
CENTRAL CITY! FLASH, WE MADE IT!
I'LL BET THE GIRLS WILL BE GLAD TO SEE US!
YES--BUT BEFORE WE CHANGE TO OUR CIVILIAN IDENTITIES, JAY, I HAVE AN IDEA...


A DAY LATER--AFTER THE FLASH TRIO HAS BANDED TOGETHER TO CAPTURE THE RAMPAGING DOWNO GANG--A FAREWELL ...
GOODBY, BARRY AND IRIS! GOODBY, WALLY!
JOAN SPOKE TO BARRY PRIVATELY-- AND HE HAS PROMISED TO REVEAL HIS SECRET IDENTITY TO IRIS FOR THEIR ANNIVERSARY-- WHICH COMES UP NEXT MONTH!


HEADING HOMEWARD TOO IS YOUNG WALLY WEST...
HERE'S BLUE VALLEY!
;Whew!; WHAT WOULD THE KIDS IN SCHOOL SAY IF I TOLD THEM ABOUT THE ADVENTURE I'VE JUST HAD WITH MY FRIENDS THE TWO FLASHES?
ONE THING IS SURE ... I WON'T EVER FORGET OUR ENCOUNTER WITH GOLDEN MAN!
THE END
23

The Flash

BIOGRAPHIES

Born in 1911 in Brooklyn, New York, **Gardner Fox** was probably the single most imaginative and productive writer in the Golden Age of comics. In the 1940s, he created or co-created dozens of long-running features for DC Comics, including the Flash, Hawkman, the Sandman, and Doctor Fate, as well as penning most of the adventures of comics' first super-team, the Justice Society of America. He was also the second person to script Batman, beginning somewhere around the Dark Knight Detective's third story. For other companies over the years, Fox also wrote Skyman, the Face, Jet Powers, Dr. Strange, Doc Savage, and many others—including Crom the Barbarian, the first sword-and-sorcery series in comics. Following the revival in the late 1950s of the superhero genre, Fox assembled Earth's Mightiest Heroes once more and scripted an unbroken 65-issue run of *Justice League of America*. Though he produced thousands of other scripts and wrote more than 100 books, it is perhaps this body of work for which he is best known. Fox passed away in 1986.

The man most closely associated with the Silver Age Flash, **Carmine Infantino** began working in comics in the mid-1940s as the artist on such characters as Green Lantern, Black Canary, Ghost Patrol...and the original Golden Age Flash. Infantino lent his unique style to a variety of superhero, supernatural, and Western features throughout the 1950s, until he was tapped to pencil the 1956 revival of the Flash. While continuing to pencil *The Flash* series, he also provided art for other strips, including Batman, the Elongated Man, and Adam Strange. Infantino became DC's editorial director in 1967 and, later, its publisher before he returned to freelancing in 1976. After that he pencilled and inked numerous features, including the *Batman* newspaper strip, *Green Lantern Corps*, and *Danger Trail*. Infantino passed away in 2013 at the age of 87.

Joe Giella began his long career as a comic book artist in the 1940s, working for Hillman Publications and for Timely, the company that was later to become Marvel Comics. Giella came to DC in 1951, and over the next three decades worked predominantly as an inker, lending his clean, tight line to thousands of pencilled pages and to every major character the company published. During the 1960s, at the height of the TV-fueled "Batmania," Giella pencilled and inked the daily *Batman* newspaper strip, and he continued his syndicated-strip work for over four more decades, contributing to such strips as *Flash Gordon* and *The Phantom* and illustrating the venerable *Mary Worth* feature from 1991 until his retirement in 2016.

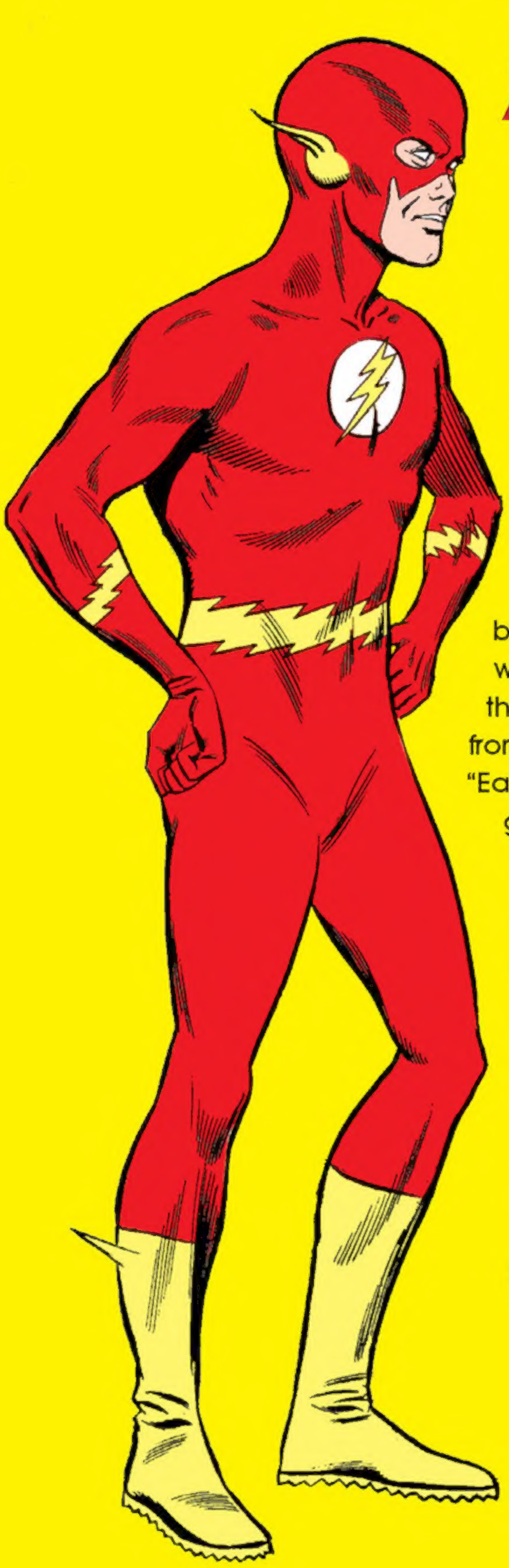
John Broome scripted the majority of the Silver Age Flash tales, beginning with the second story in *Showcase* #4 (the issue which launched the character's new incarnation) and continuing on *The Flash* until 1970. Prior to the Flash, Broome had accumulated a lively résumé of comic book credits, including Captain Marvel and the rest of the Marvel Family, the Golden Age Green Lantern, the Justice Society of America, Captain Comet, the Silver Age revival of Green Lantern, the Atomic Knights, Batman, Star Hawkins, Rex the Wonder Dog, Detective Chimp, and a variety of science fiction tales. Broome retired from comics in the 1970s and passed away in 1999.

Artist **Sid Greene** got his start in comics in 1941 and was soon drawing features for such publishing houses as Timely and Novelty. In 1955 Greene came to DC, where he contributed pencils and inks to a wide variety of genre stories as well as such features as Star Rovers, Johnny Peril, the Atom, the Elongated Man, Hawkman, the Justice League of America, the Flash, Hourman, and Batman. Best known for replacing the retired Bernard Sachs on *Justice League of America*, Greene was one of editor Julie Schwartz's most prolific inkers. Greene became one of the regular talents on *Green Lantern* in 1964, and his work contributed a crisp, organic feel to the title until his retirement in 1969. He passed away in 1972.

Comic books were **Julius Schwartz**'s second career, following almost a decade in the 1930s as a successful science fiction literary agent for Edmond Hamilton, H.P. Lovecraft, and Ray Bradbury, among others. Schwartz joined DC Comics as an editor in 1944 and remained on staff until the mid-1980s, during which time he had a creative hand in most of DC's characters. It was Schwartz's experience editing the Golden Age Flash that landed him the editorial assignment of reviving the character in 1956. His success with the Flash led to other revivals, including Green Lantern, the Atom, and Hawkman. He also edited *Justice League of America*, *Mystery In Space*, *Batman*, *Superman*, and just about everything in between. After retiring from active editing, Schwartz served as DC's unofficial goodwill ambassador for almost two decades, traveling to as many as two dozen comic book and science fiction conventions a year. He passed away on February 8, 2004.

Murphy Anderson entered comics in 1944 illustrating stories for Fiction House. After a tour of duty with the navy, he worked for a variety of other publishers, and in 1947 he took over drawing the *Buck Rogers* syndicated newspaper strip. He began his long association with DC Comics in 1950, contributing countless superhero and science fiction features for the company starring Captain Comet, the Atomic Knights, Hawkman, and the Spectre, among many others. Besides being an accomplished penciller, Anderson was also one of comics' best and most versatile inkers, with numerous credits on such features as Adam Strange, the Atom, Superman, and Batman. His most famous collaborations were with the pencillers Carmine Infantino and Gil Kane. Anderson also produced instructional comic books for the U.S. Army and headed a publisher's support service company that provided color separations and typesetting for the comics industry. He passed away in 2015 at the age of 89.

THE BIRTH OF THE MULTIVERSE BEGINS HERE!



In the classic tale "The Flash of Two Worlds" from *The Flash* #123, police scientist Barry Allen—also known as the Silver Age Flash—finally meets his Golden Age predecessor Jay Garrick—the original Scarlet Speedster—and the destiny of the DC Universe changes forever!

This unprecedented meeting of the Fastest Men Alive marked the beginning of DC's famous multiple Earths, with Barry's world becoming "Earth-1" and the world of Jay and his fabled teammates from the Justice Society of America becoming "Earth-2." From these humble beginnings would grow the vast DC Multiverse that we know today—home to the greatest and most iconic superheroes in comics history!

Now the first six cross-world meetings of the two Flashes are presented here for the first time in a special deluxe edition. Written by **Gardner Fox** and **John Broome** and illustrated by legendary penciller **Carmine Infantino** and inkers **Joe Giella** and **Sid Greene**, this volume also features insightful introductory texts by celebrated superhero scribes **Geoff Johns** and **Paul Levitz**!

dccomics.com